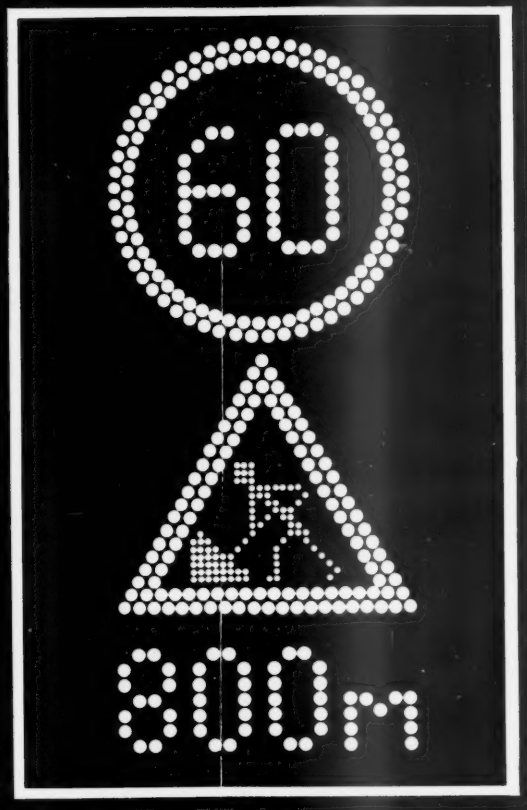
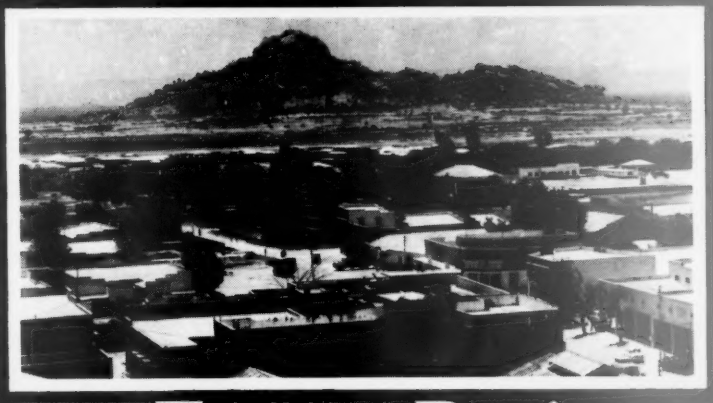
Trade and Industry

4 July 1975 20p

Road Research



Tanzania



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Trade and Industry

4 July 1975

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Cover pictures represent some of the features in *Trade and Industry* this week. The official opening took place last week of the Cambridge Science Park (see above). A feature on this practical support by Trinity College to science-based industry appears in this issue, along with an article on Tanzania's current five-year plan and the opportunities it presents to British exporters. News of successful selling abroad by British firms is given in Export Business, a regular feature of *Trade and Industry*, while another regular feature, Technology News, includes a review of the latest annual report of the Transport and Road Research Laboratory.

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Home News

Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill - Government announcement

The Government has decided to proceed with the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill at 'the very earliest opportunity in the next session of Parliament'.

In a written reply to Parliamentary Questions from Dr. J. Dickson Mabon (Greenock and Port Glasgow) and Mr. Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart), Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, said:

'The Government attaches the highest importance to ending delay and uncertainty in these two industries. Because of pressure of other legislation, it is not now possible for the Bill to complete its passage in the present session. The Government has therefore decided that it will proceed with the Bill at the very earliest opportunity in the next session with a view to Royal Assent and vesting of the companies to be nationalised as early as possible in 1976. The safeguarding provisions already announced and embodied in the Bill continue in effect. The Government reserves the right, should there be any deliberate attempt to frustrate the objective of public ownership, to introduce further safeguarding provisions which may be retrospective in their effect.

'It is essential in the national interest that in the period until vesting the industries should operate on a vigorous and ongoing basis, that contracts should be efficiently fulfilled and that constructive planning for the future should go forward. The Government looks to the industries to do this but is very ready to discuss with all parties in the industries what it can do to help. If directors should feel in any specific cases that the safeguarding provisions are impeding normal business transactions, they should get in touch with my Department who will do their best speedily to resolve any uncertainty. I would expect such cases to be exceptional.'

Transfer of Offices for Scotland and Wales

From 1 July, the Department of Industry's former Offices for Scotland and Wales became part of the Scottish Economic Planning Department and the Welsh Office, respectively.

This move, which was announced in May, follows from two decisions about changes in ministerial responsibility. Firstly, the Prime Minister announced in December 1974 that responsibility for regional selective assistance in Scotland and Wales under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 would be transferred from the Department of Industry to the Scottish and Welsh Offices. Secondly, legislation currently before Parliament provides for the Scottish and Welsh Development Agencies to take over the functions of the Scottish and Welsh Industrial Estates Corporations.

In order to ensure an orderly transition of these functions it was decided that the Scottish and Welsh Secretaries of State should assume from 1 July ministerial responsibility under the Local Employment Act 1972 for Government factory building in Scotland and Wales and for the two Estates Corporations. At the same time, they would take over certain industrial steering and promotional functions which are closely related to the operation of selective assistance and factory building. Because these functions are linked with the Offices' other responsibilities – eg export promotion, general industrial intelligence, liaison with nationalised industries in Scotland and Wales – the present integrated organisation will be preserved so that the full range of services to industry will continue to be provided as before.

The staff of the two Offices will continue to perform on an agency basis all those functions previously carried out on behalf of the Secretaries of State for Trade, for Prices and Consumer Protection and for Energy, as well as those functions of the Department of Industry for which ministerial responsibility has not been transferred.

Mr. A. G. Manzie and Mr. P. B. Hunt, previously the Department of Industry Directors for Scotland and Wales, are now Under-Secretaries in the Scottish Economic Planning Department and the Welsh Office respectively. The staff will continue to be located in Glasgow and Cardiff, with sub-offices in Inverness and Colwyn Bay. A revised version of the Guide to the Departments, incorporating these changes, will appear in next week's *Trade and Industry*.

The Regional Development Grant Offices in Scotland and Wales will remain part of the Department of Industry.

New Department of Industry officers for East Midlands

Two senior appointments have been filled in the Department of Industry's East Midlands Regional Office at Nottingham.

Alan W. Primmer, who moves from the Department's Newcastle upon Tyne office, took up his appointment as Director (Development) on 30 June, and Dick Page is to come from the Bristol office to take up his new appointment as Director (Industry) on 7 July.

In his new capacity Mr. Primmer will be dealing with Industrial Development Certificate control, selective financial assistance under the Industry Act 1972 and regional development.

Mr. Page will be responsible for liaison with industries, universities, and other technological associations on matters such as pollution, industrial technologies, research policies, energy conservation and offshore oil.

'Bibliography' – a new guide to business publications

A new guide to business publications, designed to help owners or prospective owners of small firms is now available from the Government's Small Firms Information Centres.

For the practical man in business the array of management publications must be overwhelming. It is hoped that 'Bibliography: Books Relating to Small Firms' will provide a background of basic reading as well as a guide to up-to-date writing on the subject and enable the resourceful small businessman to use his local bookshops and public libraries to greater profit.

'Bibliography', written by Miss Peta Bowden of ASLIB, is arranged to complement other publications issued by the Small Firms Information Centres.

Special Category Certificate for Concorde No. 4

The Civil Aviation Authority has issued a Special Category Certificate of Airworthiness to Concorde No. 4. This was announced by Lord Boyd-Carpenter, Chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, in a speech to the International Federation of Tour Operators at Grosvenor House, London.

'Concorde No. 4,' he announced, 'is the first Concorde assembled in the United Kingdom to receive a Special Category Certificate of Airworthiness, and marks an important step towards full certification of Concorde aircraft for airline service. It means that this particular aircraft can carry non-fare paying passengers in a series of flights simulating normal commercial airline operations, provided that it has been made clear to them that the aircraft has not yet got the full Certificate of Airworthiness required for commercial service. The experience gained from this "endurance flying programme" should open the way to full certification later in the year.

'The prospect of introducing Concorde into commercial service is an exciting one in what is otherwise a gloomy period for civil aviation. Speed, after all, is what aviation is all about, and I take pride that Britain, together with France, should be initiating this great venture.

'I should like here to pay tribute not only to the firms who developed this aircraft, but also to the CAA's own staff, especially those on the airworthiness side, who have been involved so closely with the project since its inception. To work out entirely new airworthiness requirements suitable for SST aircraft has required a considerable amount of work and ingenuity. No other aircraft in the history of British aviation, or I daresay anywhere in the world, has demanded so great a concentration of skill from those concerned with establishing safety standards.'

Peter Shore dismisses British Midland appeal on Gatwick/Belfast route

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has dismissed an appeal by British Midland Airways Ltd. (BMA) against the Civil Aviation Authority's decision to limit the duration of their licence for a service between Gatwick and Belfast to a period of two years only.

BMA lodged its appeal on 21 February against the CAA's 29 January decision to grant them the licence for two years only and not for at least five years as BMA had sought.

BMA had previously operated the route since November 1974 under a 'without prejudice' instrument of exemption from the CAA following British Caledonian Airways' withdrawal from the route in October of last year.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Proceedings under Section 36 of the Patents Act 1949
Notice is hereby given that the endorsement 'Licences of Right' upon the undermentioned Patents was cancelled on 16 June 1975.

No.	Grantee	Subject-matter
16 June 1975		
1,035,130	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Evaporator for concentrating radio-active solutions
1,039,303	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	An evaporator, more particularly for processing radio-active solutions
1,068,969	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Method of separation of uranium from plutonium
1,111,959	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Method for the electronic regulation of a plutonium extraction battery
1,129.039	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Process for sepating strontium values from a solution containing strontium
1,133,300	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Axial-mechanism control rod actuator
1,134,457	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Thermal power plant and method of operation
1,135,974	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Liquid-cooled nuclear reactor
1,141,434	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A sealing system for the rotary plug of a nuclear reactor
1,153,237	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A method of selective reduction of plutonium hexafluoride and apparatus for carrying out said method
1,169,322	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Process for making graphitic neutron absorbing articles
1,170,385	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	An apparatus for dissolving uranium-aluminium alloys
1,184,121	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Liquid-cooled nuclear reactor
1,188,905	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Nuclear reactor support structure
1,192,697	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Countercurrent exchange column and method of operation of such a column
1,192,901	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Leak-tight support for rotary seal plug
1,204,050	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A metering wheel liquid dispenser
1,206,334	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Method of purification of trilaurylamine
1,211,816	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A method of decontaminating radio-active effluents

More jobs for Gwent

John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, has announced two factory projects for Gwent which could result in about 70 new jobs.

He announced on 19 June that Alan Wolfenden and Co. Ltd. will occupy a new factory of 12,500 sq. ft. on the Gilchrist Thomas Industrial Estate, Blaenavon.

The company began trading in 1950 at Hornchurch, Essex, and expanded later to a new factory in Basildon New Town. It currently manufactures press tools and metal pressings mainly for the electric motor and domestic appliance industry. The new factory will enable the company to expand its activities to the manufacture of shaded pole skeleton frame motors which has been a pilot scheme since 1972. The move from Basildon will take place from 19 July, and the company expects to be in production in the new factory within two weeks. Initially 15 jobs will be provided but on completion of the project the company hopes to employ 50 workers, of whom 20 will be males.

The company has been offered a removal grant under the terms of Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972.

The Secretary of State also announced that Gre-Zone Products Ltd. of Southall, Middlesex has moved its production line to a new 5,000 sq. ft. factory at Caldicot Pill, Gwent.

Gre-Zone Products Ltd. which is a private family company was established some 20 years ago and produces detergents, bleaches and disinfectants.

Production has already started at the new factory. The company expects to employ 15 workers (eight of them men) and this should eventually increase to 21 (13 men).

Vacant Government factory in Wales allocated

Myriad Kitchens Ltd. of Wooburn Green, Bucks, is to transfer its entire manufacturing activity to a Government-owned factory at Pontardawe.

The company, which has been in business for two years, has been allocated the Department of Industry's former No. 1 advance factory which was previously occupied by William Old (Resiform) Wales Ltd. Myriad Kitchens Ltd. is engaged in the design and manufacture of luxury kitchen units which are manufactured mainly to customers' requirements. One of the primary reasons for the move is the company's desire to occupy larger premises where it will be able to expand production in order to meet the increased demand which has occurred for its products.

It is expected that 17 jobs will be provided in the first year and that this will increase to 35, mainly for men, within three years.

Occupation of the factory should take place early in July with production later in the month.

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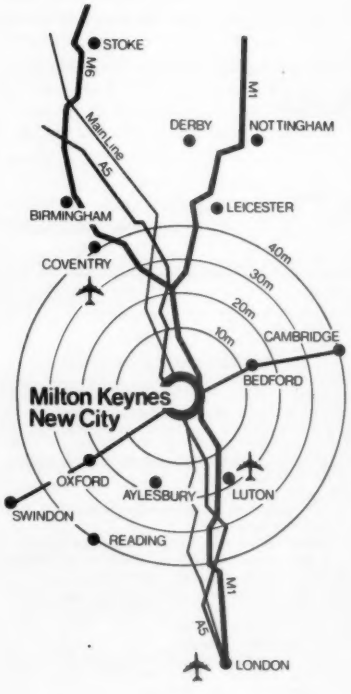

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Government advance factory for St. Helens

Work has started on a 1,350 m² (15,000 sq. ft.) advance factory on the Lea Green Industrial Estate, St. Helens, Merseyside, on behalf of the Department of Industry.

A contract for this work has been awarded to F. and F. S. White of Newton-Le-Willows. Project architects are Gilling, Dodd and Partners of Liverpool, and the quantity surveyors are E. C. Harris and Partners, also of Liverpool.

The factory should be ready for occupation by early 1976.

Inquiries regarding purchase or lease to: Mr. A. J. McLean, Department of Industry, North West Regional Office, Sunley Buildings, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA (tel: 061-236 2171 ext. 646).

Expansion at South Kirkby

The English Industrial Estates Corporation is building an extension of 1,984 m² (21,000 sq. ft.) to the premises occupied by Home Insulation Ltd. on the Langthwaite Grange Industrial Estate, South Kirkby, West Yorkshire.

Work has started and the extension should be ready for occupation towards the end of the year.

Home Insulation Ltd., makers of Everest Double Glazing, of Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, are manufacturers of secondary windows. The company took occupation of a 2,250 m² (25,000 sq. ft.) advance factory at South Kirkby late in 1972 and this expansion will almost double the size of the unit.

The number employed at the factory should increase to 150 men when full production is reached in the extension.

New PPS appointment

Gregor MacKenzie, Minister of State for Industry, has appointed Frank White, MP, as his Parliamentary Private Secretary. Mr. White, who is a member for Bury and Radcliffe, was returned to Parliament in October 1974.

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, retains Mr. Roger Stott, MP, as his Parliamentary Private Secretary.

Stanley Clinton Davis at regional airports

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, visited two of Britain's regional airports on 27 June.

He toured Teesside and Newcastle airports and while there heard the views of airport owners, and representatives of management and trades unions about the way in which they see their airports developing.

The visits, the fourth in a programme of ministerial visits to regional airports, are related to the consultations which are now proceeding and which Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, said would take place when he announced the Government's decision to abandon the Maplin project.

North Sea cost escalation study

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has set up a study on how to prevent or reduce the rising cost of offshore oil and gas operations on the UK Continental Shelf.

He announced the study on 24 June in reply to Parliamentary Question from Mr. Frank McElhone, MP (Glasgow, Queens Park). Mr. Benn said: 'I have set in hand an examination of this problem and I am hoping that I shall have the full co-operation of the TUC, the STUC, the CBI and the industries concerned in this.'

Notes

The project director for this study will be Mr. L. R. Beesly, who has recently retired from a senior position in the Procurement Executive of the Ministry of Defence. He has extensive experience of the engineering industry.

Mr. Beesly will be supported by a team drawn mainly from the Departments of Energy and Industry. Outside consultants will be employed as necessary to study particular aspects.

The team's terms of reference are: to make recommendations to Government for action by any or all of the UK offshore supply industry, the UK offshore oil and gas industry, and the Government to prevent or reduce escalation of the costs of offshore oil and gas operations on the UK Continental Shelf.

To this end, the study will need:

i to determine what have been the main trends in costs, particularly in the last 12 months, in relation to appropriate national and international indices where these exist.

ii to determine the main components and causes of cost escalation and to quantify each as far as possible.

iii to assess which of these factors are likely to cause further increases in costs in the future.

iv to consider whether any new factors are likely to have a significant affect on future costs.

v to assess the likely impact of future cost movements on exploration and development effort, on prospects for the offshore industry and on revenues, including Government revenues.

vi to make recommendations as they are formulated while the study is in progress, and to make a final report.

The team will be gathering information from, and drawing on the experience of, the operating and supplying companies on the UK Continental Shelf. It will treat commercial information supplied to it in complete confidence.

The Department of Energy has written to the UK Offshore Operators' Association (UKOOA), TUC, STUC and CBI informing them of this study and requesting their co-operation.

The study team will make ad hoc recommendations to the Secretary of State for Energy as soon as these are decided, and submit a final report in about six months' time.

Fact sheet on oil from the UK Continental Shelf

The Department of Energy has produced a new fact sheet on Oil from the UK Continental Shelf.

This is the first in a series of occasional fact sheets that the Department will be producing on various aspects of the UK energy scene. They are designed to serve as ready reference documents that will show, at a glance, the current position and the main influences bearing on a given subject.

The series will be of interest to all who follow the UK energy scene, and as an educational aid to schools and other centres of learning.

The fact sheet on Oil from the UK Continental Shelf describes the UK's present level of imports and relates this to the forecast production and reserve levels of oil from the UK sector of the North Sea. It also includes references to pipelines, the size and importance of the UK offshore supplies market, Government income from royalties and taxation, the Government's proposals for majority State participation in commercial fields, refining and depletion policies, and offshore accidents.

Copies of Fact Sheet 1: Oil from the UK Continental Shelf can be obtained, free of charge, from Fact Sheet, Department of Energy, Room 1260, Thames House South, Millbank, SW1P 4QJ.

been produced and arrangements are being made to distribute them widely throughout industry.

The maximum publicity for these measures was promised by the Health and Safety Commission as part of their programme of action following the publication of the Court of Inquiry's report on the disaster.

Transport Users' Consultative Committee for East Anglia

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mrs. N. Plumb as a member of the Transport User's Consultative Committee for the East Anglia area, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. J. Torne.

'After Flixborough . . . ?' leaflet available

Copies of the leaflet 'After Flixborough . . . ?' are now available from local offices of the HM Factory Inspectorate. It poses 10 vital questions for industry which should be answered by management to help them avoid the situation which developed at Flixborough. Initially, 100,000 copies have

Submissions for Design Council Awards 1976

Submissions from the engineering industry, the automotive industry and medical equipment manufacturers will be eligible for consideration for a 1976 Design Council Award provided they are received by 31 August 1975. The Awards will be announced during the spring of 1976 when it is hoped HRH The Duke of Edinburgh will again make the presentation of the certificates to successful manufacturers and designers.

The Design Council reports that so far the response has been encouraging but they hope that farm machinery manufacturers, in particular, will take full advantage of this opportunity to prove that their inherent ingenuity is matched by skilful and practical engineering. More machine tool manufacturers could also benefit by accepting the challenge to show their capabilities to the large potential home market. In recent years, for example, Design Council Awards have endorsed the high technical expertise which does exist in the British machine tool industry. A further acknowledgement of its technical innovation was accorded this year by the award of The Duke of Edinburgh's Design Prize for the Ferranti Multi-fold 'workshop' laser which also won a 1975 Design Council Award for engineering products.

Motor vehicle awards

The Design Council Awards for the British Motor Vehicle Industry, now entering its third year, has shown the active interest of the motor vehicle industry in reducing potential health hazards from engine exhaust emissions. In previous years excellent accessories such as the KL Jeenay child safety seat have increased their sales by winning a Design Council Award and it is hoped that equally well designed, practical accessories will be included amongst the 1976 Design Council Awards for the British Motor Vehicle Industry. This Award scheme will again be co-sponsored by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Aids for the handicapped featured prominently amongst the six Design Council Awards for Medical Equipment made for the first time this year. Submissions from bio-medical equipment, scientific equipment, surgical equipment and health care equipment manufacturers are again invited. Design Council Awards for medical equipment are co-sponsored by the King Edward's

Export publicity for industry

Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, who are concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of Government information services. The COI are interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, and films for television and other screening. Contact should be made with the nearest Regional Office covering your area.

Northern: Mr H. G. Roberts, Andrews House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NEI 4TB (Tel: 27575 – Telex 53277).

Yorkshire & Humberside: Mr T. Cooban, City House, Leeds LS1 4JG (Tel: 38232 – Telex Econ Plan 55472 – message to be prefixed for COI).

East Midland: To be appointed, Cranbrook House, Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1EW (Tel: 46121 – Telex 37572).

Eastern: Mr A. A. McLoughlin, Block D, Government Buildings, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2DF (Tel: 58911 – Telex 81187).

London & South Eastern*: Mr R. Dean, OBE, St. Christopher House Annexe, Sumner Street, London, SE1 (Tel: 01-928 2371 – Telex 918881 message to be prefixed for London Region).

Southern: Mr A. S. Poole, Market Place House, Reading RG1 2EH (Tel: 581261 – Telex 848216).

South Western: Mr W. J. D. Irving, MVO, The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2NF (Tel: 291071 – Telex 44203).

Midland: Mr D. C. Boyd, Five Ways House, Islington Row, Birmingham B15 1SH (Tel: 021-643 8191 – Telex 33376).

North Western: Mr H. V. Tillotson, MVO, 22nd floor, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BD (Tel: 061-832 9111 – Telex 667830).

Scottish Office: Mr C. MacGregor, MBE, Scottish Information Office, New St. Andrew's House, St. James Centre, Edinburgh EH1 3TD (Tel: 031-556 8400).

Ulster Office: Northern Ireland Information Service, Stormont Castle, Belfast BT4 3ST (Tel: 63011).

Welsh Office: Mr Brian Evans, Director, Welsh Office Information Division, 42 Park Place, Cardiff CF1 3PY (Tel: 28066 – Telex 49327).

* National companies in central London, and particularly those with UK subsidiaries or branches, which require overseas publicity should consult Industrial Section at COI Headquarters: Mr E. Turnbull, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU (Tel: 01-938 2345 ext. 271 – Telex 915444).

Hospital Fund and the Department of Health and Social Security.

All submissions will be judged on merit and Awards given to products that show significant economic and technical advances taking into account their innovative content, performance, reliability, ease of use, safety, effective use of materials and resources, cost, ease of maintenance and good appearance.

This year the Design Council will give its 100th engineering award.

Could methanol in petrol save oil? No proven technical case – report.

There is no proven technical case for introducing a blend of petrol containing methanol and higher alcohols derived from natural gas as a means of reducing oil consumption.

This is the conclusion of the report* published on 30 June of an official Working Party appointed by the Department of Energy.

The Working Party was set up in 1974 to examine and report on the study of technology for producing methanol and its homologues from natural gas, and their use as constituents of blends of petrol. Its appointment is part of the Department's continuing assessment of the technical options in energy supply.

The Working Party's report says that one of the technological options for reducing the use of oil, which has received the attention of the technical press and other media, following the oil supply difficulties of 1973, is the use of methanol and the higher alcohols drived from natural gas as a component of petrol.

It notes that a lot of knowledge about the use of alcohols, and particularly ethyl alcohol, was gained from the large scale use of alcohols in petrol in the 1920s and 1930s. Recently, however, this interest was revived because of the current increase in the price of oil, the attitudes of some major oil producers and the realisation that the world could run out of oil within a few decades.

The report points out that there have been major changes in the technology of methanol production and the design and performance of the engines of road vehicles since the 1920s and 1930s. The Working Party was therefore asked to concentrate on these two subjects in its study.

It has reached the following main conclusions:

there is no proven large scale plant producing methanol-higher alcohol mixtures at prices comparable with methanol, although the technology is understood in principle;

production of methanol from natural gas cannot be achieved economically with a thermal efficiency much greater than 60 per cent;

the distribution of pure methanol to retail outlets could constitute a safety hazard, but blended with petrol the risks would be minimal;

unless steps are taken to keep water out of the system major difficulties would be encountered in the distribution of petrol blends containing 15 or more per cent of alcohol;

there is evidence that use of a blend containing 10 per cent methanol and 5 per cent isobutanol in conventional petrol would impair the operation in cold weather of at least some cars;

there is no firm evidence that under normal driving conditions the use of methanol-alcohol-petrol blends could lead to significant improvements in petrol consumption or thermal efficiency;

there is no practical experience of distributing methanol-petrol blends through wide ranging distribution systems, and large scale trials would be necessary to prove its feasibility; a clear economic incentive would be required before tests were considered.

Notes

This is the second in a series of Energy Papers being published by the Department of Energy. The series is primarily intended to create a wider public understanding and discussion of energy matters. The papers do not necessarily represent Government or Department policy.

The Working Party was comprised of technical officers from oil companies, the motor industry, the chemical industry and a university. Its chairman was Mr. Charles Ryder, Senior Principal Scientific Officer, Energy Technology Division, Department of Energy.

* 'Methane derived alcohols: their use as blending components of petrol – Report by a Working Party.' Produced by the Department of Energy as Energy Paper No 2 and published by Her Majesty's Stationary Office, price 80p net.

Agreement in principle on code of practice for car industry

In a joint statement on 30 June, the Office of Fair Trading and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) announced that the SMMT have accepted in principle the adoption of a code of practice for the motor industry.

In March, the OFT sent the Society a set of proposals for inclusion in a code. These included new standards for the sale of new and used vehicles, repairs and servicing, and suggestions on machinery for dealing with consumer complaints.

Announcing their acceptance in principle of the need for a code, the SMMT have told the OFT that they will now work on detailed proposals for the formation and financing of an industry-wide conciliation and arbitration scheme to deal with the more intractable complaints which cannot be resolved directly between the two parties concerned. This will involve discussions between the SMMT and the Motor Agents' Association as the scheme is intended to cover the sale of new and used cars (including warranty matters), repairs and servicing.

On a suggestion for a common standard in the performance claims made for new cars, it has been agreed that discussions should continue between the OFT and the SMMT to make 'miles per gallon' claims by manufacturers more easily comparable. Agreement has been reached that there is a need for advertised prices of new cars and non-optional extras to be presented clearly by all manufacturers so that the customer can make valid comparison between the manufacturers' products.

Further discussions will take place on the OFT's proposals about pre-delivery inspections, and the extension of the warranty period beyond the expiry date when persistent and recurring faults have been reported in a new car during the warranty period.

A draft code of practice is to be prepared by the SMMT which will form the basis for further talks between the SMMT and the OFT.

Small Firms Information Centres

Centre	Telephone	Freefone area	Freefone	Telex
Birmingham	021-643 3344	West Midlands	4054	337919
Bristol	294546	South West	9910	449650
Cardiff	396116	Wales	1208	497515
Glasgow	041-248 6014	Scotland	846	779334
Leeds	445151	Yorks/Humberside	5361	557687
London	01-828 2384	London & South East	2079	917920
Luton	29215	Eastern	372	826115
Manchester	061-832 5282	North Western	6005	667952
Newcastle	25353	Northern	529	537429
Nottingham	49791	East Midlands	4062	377313

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her to refer neither the proposed merger between Adwest Group Ltd. and Sealed Motor Construction Co. Ltd. nor the proposed merger between Myson Group Ltd. and Sealed Motor Construction Co. Ltd. to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

More food goes metric

Prepacked flour and flour products, dried vegetables, and certain breakfast cereals and oat products are to go metric within the next two years. Proposals to allow them to be sold by retail in prescribed metric quantities at various dates from 1 November 1975 onwards are contained in three draft orders published on 24 June. At present, when prepacked, they may be sold by retail only in prescribed imperial quantities.

The new metric packs, which will all be marked in both metric and imperial units and carry a distinctive identification mark, will be about 10 per larger than the imperial packs now in use. For example, the 3 lb bag of flour, which is approximately 1.36 kg., will become 1.5 kg.

The timetable for going metric is:
breakfast cereals from 1 November 1975
dried vegetables from 1 April 1976
flour from 1 July 1977
oat products from 1 August 1977

Copies of the draft orders, entitled the Weights and Measures Act 1963 (Flour and Flour Products), (Cereal Breakfast Foods and Oat Products), (Dried Vegetables) Order 1975, may be obtained from HMSO, or through any booksellers, price 6p each.

Notes

Salt, pasta and sugar were the first prepacked foodstuffs permitted to be sold by retail in prescribed metric quantities. Orders for pasta and salt, approved by Parliament in November 1973, are already in effect. A similar order on sugar, effective from 1 October 1975, was approved in 1974.

In addition to permitting the goods to which they apply to be sold by retail in ranges of imperial quantities, the orders now before Parliament will permit retail sales in the metric quantities shown:

Flour and flour products: 125 g., 250 g., 500 g. and multiples of 500 g. and additionally 375 g. and 750 g. for cornflour.
Cereal breakfast foods and oat products: 125 g., 250g., 375 g., 500 g., 750 g., 1 kg., 1.5 kg. and multiples of 1 kg.
Dried vegetables: 125 g., 250 g., 375 g., 500 g., 1 kg. and multiples of 1 kg.

The orders will make an upper limit of 10 kg. to the prescribed quantities provisions. Above this amount prepacked goods may be sold in any quantity. The order on breakfast cereals does not cover cereals in biscuit form or cereals in other than flake form. Such cereals are not at present required by the Weights and Measures Act 1963 to be sold in prescribed quantities.

Trade inquiries about the orders may be addressed to the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (tel. 01-211 4648).

Consumer Credit Act licensing: trade views sought on methods

The Office of Fair Trading is seeking views from a wide range of sources – including trade associations, local authorities and professional people – about the manner in which the OFT should call for licence applications under the Consumer Credit Act.

Virtually everyone concerned in credit or hire business is likely to need a licence, including traders who grant or arrange credit facilities for their customers, traders who hire out goods, debt collectors, debt counsellors, debt adjusters, and credit reference agencies. It is expected that about 100,000 applications will be made and that a standard licence would be valid for three years.

Tony Scott, Director of Consumer Credit at the OFT, said on 24 June that he envisaged a progressive introduction of licensing, with applications being invited in groups over a period of about two years. A group would be invited to apply from a specified date – say, 1 October 1975 – and the licensing provisions for that group would come into force on an "appointed day" – six months later.

'It is most important that the arrangements we adopt for seeking applications are those which will attract the highest level of response,' he stated, 'because the consequences to a trader who fails to make a valid application before the "appointed day" are serious – he could be committing a criminal offence by operating an unlicensed business, and agreements he had made with customers or clients might be unenforceable.'

There are two possible methods of staging the introduction of licensing by groups – by type of business (and licence), or by alphabetical group.

Business/licence grouping

Group licensing by type of business/licence could, for example, be introduced in three stages:

Group one: Consumer credit and hire business: applications invited – 1 October 1975; 'appointed day' – 1 April 1976.

Group two: Debt collecting, debt adjusting, debt counselling and credit reference agencies: applications invited – 1 April 1976; 'appointed day' – 1 October 1976.

Group three: Credit brokers: applications invited – 1 October 1976; 'appointed day' – 1 July 1977.

To avoid multiplicity of applications from businesses needing licences in more than one group, an applicant in Group one would be able, at the same time, to apply for a Group three licence and not wait until 1 October 1976.

Alphabetical grouping

Applicants for all types of licences would apply when their name fitted in the alphabetical group being called up. This method of licensing might, for example, involve calling up four alphabetical groups:

A to D: applications invited – 1 October 1975; 'appointed day' – 1 April 1976.
E to K: applications invited – 1 April 1976; 'appointed day' – 1 October 1976.
L to R: applications invited – 1 October 1976; 'appointed day' – 1 April 1977.
S to Z: applications invited – 1 April 1977; 'appointed day' – 1 October 1977.

Again, to avoid multiple applications at different dates, a group of companies having subsidiaries with differing names and needing various types of licences, would be able to put in their applications en bloc.

'I would greatly value comments on the two possible methods,' said Mr. Scott, 'because we are very anxious to adopt the arrangements which can be most readily understood by those concerned, which minimise administrative complexities, which give an even flow of work in dealing with applications, and which are sufficiently flexible for them to be modified if experience shows that changes are necessary. The views of people in trade and commerce will be extremely valuable to me in attempting to identify the best and most snag-proof method.

'I would emphasise that nothing is settled as yet – all the methods and dates mentioned are simply examples of how licensing by groupings might be operated. Now is the time for people to give me their views.'

Comments should be sent, no later than 21 July, to: Consumer Credit Division (Mr. C. T. Newton), Office of Fair Trading, New Court, 48 Carey Street, London WC2A 2LD.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

The Register of Restrictive Trading Agreements (Restrictive Trade Practices Acts 1956 to 1973)

Additions and amendments to the Register

A list of additions and amendments made to the alphabetical index to the Register between 1 April and 30 June 1975 is given below; the amendments are shown in italics.

'D' and 'F' Agreements

Also given below, headed 'D' and 'F' Agreements, is a schedule which brings up to date at 30 June 1975 particulars of these agreements which have been determined or varied.

A full explanation of the basis on which these two lists have been compiled, and the meaning of the symbols used, was published in *Trade amd Industry* (page 22) on 2 January 1975.

Agreements referred to the Restrictive Practices Court

The *Board of Trade Journal* published, on 10 April 1959 (page 859), a list of all agreements in respect of which Notices of Reference (constituting formal commencement of proceedings before the Restrictive Practices Court) had been issued except those which had already been dealt with by the Court. Subsequent additions have been published at approximately quarterly intervals. Anyone who may be in a position to assist the Court with evidence from his own experience of results of any of these agreements which he thinks affect the public interest, is asked to communicate as early as possible with the Treasury Solicitor's Branch, 3 Central Buildings, Mathew Parker Street, London SW1H 9NN. The agreements shown in square brackets have been abandoned after the issue of a Notice of Reference.

Agreements not to be referred to the Restrictive Practices Court

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection may, on the representation of the Director General of Fair Trading, give directions under Section 9(2) of the Act of 1968 discharging him, during their continuance in force, from the duty of referring an agreement to the Restrictive Practices Court. A further list is given below, headed as this paragraph is headed, of agreements in respect of which directions under that subsection have been given and are in force. The agreements are indicated in the Index to the Register by the symbol 'B'. Although these agreements are already included in the above-mentioned list of additions and amendments, they are shown separately under this heading for the benefit of readers.

Inspection of the Register

The Register may be inspected between 10 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. on any weekday except Saturday and certain holidays at any of the following addresses:

Office of Fair Trading,
Chancery House,
Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1SP

9 Hope Street,
Edinburgh EH2 4EL

Department of Commerce,
176 Newtownbreda Road,
Belfast BT1 4JX.

The fee for inspecting the Register is 50p per day, but if fewer than five agreements are inspected, the fee is 10p for each agreement.

Indexes to the Register, one as published in *Trade and Industry* and one in which commodities are grouped by classes, may be inspected at these addresses free of charge.

ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE REGISTER

Registered No. of Agreements	Commodity	
	A	
3550	Asbestos sprayed	*add B 5/75*
3726	Axles and spare parts	*add B 5/75*
	B	
3856	Bacon pigs	
1148	Built up bituminous felt roofing materials	*add F 6/75*
	C	
3676	Cereal seed	*add B 5/75*
	E	
3845	Electrical machinery	
	G	
3837	Groceries and provisions	
3226	Groceries, wines and spirits	*add F 4/75*
3828	Groceries, wines and spirits	
	I	
3861	Iron and steel forgings	
	M	
3796	Milk	*add F 5/75*
3749	Musical instruments	*add B 5/75*
	N	
3233	Newspapers and periodicals (Barnsley and District)	*add D 5.75*
3245	Newspapers and periodicals (St. Leonards and District)	*add D 5/75*
	P	
1283	Paper	*add B 5/75*
3862	Polyester film polyester film base	
3748	Potatoes (Scotland)	*add B 5/75*
	S	
3847	Soya bean meal	
	T	
3745	Toys	*add B 5/75*
	W	
3805	Wool tops (Bradford and other areas)	*add B 5/75*

AGREEMENTS REFERRED TO THE RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES COURT

Registered No. of Agreements	Commodity
3850	External plant telephone cable (Post Office tenders)
3851	Switchboard cable
3852	External plant telephone cable (non Post Office business)
3853	External plant telephone cable

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
NOTICE OF APPLICATION UNDER THE RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT 1968 (SECTION 7 (3))

Registered No. of Agreements	Commodity
3850	External plant telephone cable (Post Office tenders)
3851	Switchboard cable
3852	External plant telephone cable (non Post Office business)

AGREEMENTS NOT TO BE REFERRED TO THE RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES COURT

Registered No. of Agreements	Commodity
1283	Paper
3550	Asbestos sprayed
3676	Cereal seed
2726	Axles and spare parts
3745	Toys
3748	Potatoes (Scotland)
3749	Musical instruments
3805	Wool tops (Bradford and other areas)

'D' AND 'F' AGREEMENTS

Registered No. of Agreements	Commodity	Area	D or F	Date
1148	Built up bituminous felt roofing materials		F	June 1975
3226	Groceries, wines and spirits		F	April 1975
3233	Newspapers and periodicals	Barnsley and District	D	May 1975
3245	Newspapers and periodicals	St. Leonards and District	D	May 1975
3796	Milk		F	May 1975

Technology News

New National Terotechnology Centre

The Department of Industry has placed a contract with the Electrical Research Association for the establishment and operation of the National Terotechnology Centre at Leatherhead, Surrey. The ERA was chosen as the most suitable location from a number of proposals in a competition initiated by the Department.

The Director of the NTC is Dennis Parkes, a technical journalist and consultant. Dennis Parkes has been a member of the Committee for Terotechnology since its formation and is a well known speaker on terotechnology. Initially the Centre will have a staff of four including the Director. It will work closely with the Department's Committee for Terotechnology and its primary function will be to provide information and to encourage the application of the technology.

Most of the NTC services will be free, though charges may be made for specific types of assistance. The staff will make industrial visits as part of the programme of increasing national awareness of Tetotechnology. The NTC will become the focal point for all inquiries and will maintain an extensive catalogue of references, publications, speakers, courses and events relating to Terotechnology, with up-to-date information about consultancy organisations dealing with specific aspects of the subject.

The activities of the National Terotechnology Centre will not be confined to any one sector of industry or job function and companies engaged in the building, manufacturing and processing industries will find the Centre an invaluable reference source. Further details may be obtained from: National Terotechnology Centre, Cleeve Road, Leatherhead KT22 75A, Surrey (tel. Leatherhead 78242).

Conform, the advanced continuous extrusion machine, developed by the Advanced Metals Forming Group of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's Reactor Fuel Element Laboratories at Springfields. Wire or rod can be produced continuously from rod or feed-stock in a single pass, instead of multiple passes as in conventional techniques. The UKAEA have now licensed two British and two American companies to manufacture Conform.

Structural hollow sections

Tubes division of British Steel Corporation has published a new brochure, 'Structural Hollow Sections' which will be of value to steel stockholders and others who use SHS for a vast range of purposes.

From construction work to mechanised handling systems SHS has proved an ideal material because of its light weight, strength, rigidity and ease of welding and some of the interesting applications are illustrated.

The publication lists mechanical properties, chemical composition and other technical details, together with the dimensions in which SHS is available. It is available on application to: British Steel Corporation, Tubes Division, Divisional Sales Office, Corby, Northants NN17 1UA.

New research vessel for Navy

A new kind of research ship which combines the roles of oceanographic trials and specialised cable laying was launched last week at the Cartsburn Dockyard of Scott's Shipbuilding Co. Ltd. at Greenock.

The ship, which will be operated by the Royal Maritime Auxiliary Service, is to be named RMAS *Newton* after Sir Isaac Newton. It has four laboratories for scientific work, seven different winches for overside experiments, and a high definition echo sounder. It will be capable of laying, recovering and repairing submarine cables.

RMAS *Newton* has a deep displacement of 3,940 tonnes, an overall length of 98.6 m., and diesel-electric propulsion. It will be manned by 12 officers and 37 ratings of the Royal Maritime Auxiliary Service and will have accommodation for 12 trials and scientific staff.

The Royal Maritime Auxiliary Service operates a variety of civilian-manned vessels providing services both to the Fleet and in support of naval research.

Alignment control system for levelling machines

An alignment control system designed to extract better results more quickly from motor graders and other levelling machines is described and illustrated in a new eight-page brochure available on request from Badger Systems of 98 Jack Lane, Leeds LS10 1UX.

The system, shown in use during trials at the Ministry of Defence Military Vehicle Experimental Establishment, makes use of a rotating laser transmitter for accurate above-ground reproduction of the required finish plane. High productivity, high accuracy, route freedom, adaptability and versatility with reduced costs are claimed for the equipment, which was first introduced by Hudswell Yates and is now in operation on large-scale land levelling work in the Middle East.

Learning from foreign construction

The library service of the Property Services Agency, Department of the Environment has published the latest edition of an index which lists some of the more useful translations from a dozen different languages which have been commissioned by the PSA and its predecessors from 1964 to 1974.

The items included are taken from foreign language construction journals which are scanned regularly by the PSA library as part of its information service. The subject index pages of this new publication cover a wide variety of interests including 'Technical building recommendations for a roof-garden', translated from the Dutch journal *Bouw* (translation 562), 'Vertical communication in high-rise buildings' from the French journal *Travaux* (translation 553), 'On the removal of stains from concrete surfaces' from the Norwegian journal *Bygg* (translation 539), 'Suspended aluminium ceilings' from the Russian (translation 522), or 'Mofotherm – a new plastic' from the Czech (translation 520). Each translation recorded includes an indicative abstract to enable the reader to decide if this publication is likely to be of assistance to him.

Copies of 'Construction Information in Translation' can be obtained free of charge from the PSA Library Sales Office, Room 018, Lambeth Bridge House, London SE1 7SB (tel. 01-211 6161) or from any PSA library.

A practical noise machine and other projects – the TRRL annual report

'For many transport activities, 1974 was a year of considerable uncertainty, with marked changes – and even reversals – in long established trends. This situation was largely, but not entirely, precipitated by abrupt rises in the price of energy, particularly crude oil and its derivatives and by anxiety about assured supplies in times of international political difficulty,' says Alec Silverleaf, Director of the Transport and Road Research Laboratory in his introduction to the 1974 Annual Report.

During 1974 there were significant revisions in the nature and scale of the national programme of road construction and maintenance, mounting concern regarding the cost, efficiency and operation of public transport undertakings, and increasing recognition of the need to make the best use of existing transport services and facilities.

This general atmosphere of doubt and change led to a sharpening of the continuing re-appraisal of the work of the Laboratory, resulting in further redeployment of resources. In particular, staff distribution between major activities was altered, although the general organisational structure of the Laboratory remained unchanged.

A programme has started which focuses on the problems of access and mobility from the point of view of people rather than vehicles. The first study concerns the travel patterns of secondary school children and attempts to evaluate the performance of available transport systems in meeting travel needs for the journey to and from school. Some of the implications for planning safe and convenient routes and modes for children to travel to school have been identified.

From the point of view of lorry drivers the problem of parking becomes increasingly important and research into the layout of lorry parks has been carried out. A system was investigated in which the parking stalls were at 45° to the aisles with separate entry and exit aisles to avoid the need for reversing.

The Laboratory has also started a programme of research on dial-a-bus and other novel bus services. The first UK dial-a-bus system to operate throughout the day started at Harlow in August 1974 using three vehicles. It is operated as a loosely scheduled but unrouted system linking Old Harlow to the new town centre.

It has been suggested that a possible measure of the cost of an environmental nuisance is the amount of money people will be willing to accept as compensation for putting up with the nuisance. Metra Consulting, under contract, have produced a practical noise machine which plays a continuous tape of traffic noise inside homes. In return occupiers are rewarded with a sum of money to be paid to those who leave the machine switched on. Nearly 100 people were approached in a pilot survey and according to their socio-economic class were offered various amounts of money to have the machine in their main bedroom for a week. The acceptance rate was 42 per cent, 60 per cent claimed to have slept with the machine in their bedroom every night the others moved to another room. A further study followed in 1974 after the machine had been developed to relay sound to every room of the house.

When public participation was included in the normal planning procedures for major road schemes in 1973 the Laboratory started looking into the effectiveness of the methods being used and the first survey was carried out at Norwich.

In an attempt to provide quicker estimates of amenity values in proposed road construction schemes, a pilot study on the A66 in the Lake District National Park in 1974 was designed to test the relative merits of colour prints, slides or cine films. Juries were selected from the resident and visitor populations. A larger survey will be carried out in 1975.

Among the many projects which attempt to deal with the problem of traffic noise, the development of demonstration quiet heavy vehicles is progressing well and it is hoped that they will be ready in late 1977 or early 1978. A re-designed British Leyland engine is being tested and if successful will enable a vehicle, using modified exhaust and cooling systems and an enclosed engine, to approach the target levels.

A detailed study has also been made of lead pollution from motor vehicles at a heavily-trafficked motorway site. Measurements were taken of the concentration of lead in the atmosphere in the central reservation, inside a moving vehicle and at various distances from the road. Urban sites have been established in Birmingham, Cambridge, Cardiff, Glasgow and London for the continuous monitoring of pollutants by Warren Spring Laboratory under contract. Measurements of pollutants have been made inside a busy multi-storey carpark in Reading as a comparison with levels measured elsewhere.

Further measures to reduce noise include experimental wooden noise barriers, which are being tested in Perry Bar, Birmingham where an elevated section of the M6 Motorway passes between two housing estates.

It has also been suggested that pneumatic capsule pipelines might be used for the transport of freight and bulk materials in Britain and the Laboratory commissioned the British Hydromechanics Research Association to make a detailed technical and economic appraisal of the system. Outline designs for three different applications were costed. The transport of some bulk materials appeared feasible at a cost comparable with road transport and at similar energy levels. A specification is now being prepared so that a pilot rig can be built.

A research programme is also to be developed to study the characteristics of various hydraulic pumping systems. This could involve the establishment of a large-scale test rig. Possibilities are in conveying colliery shale to the coast for land reclamation and coastal defences or pumping white sand from china clay workings to the coast for beach replenishment.

One of the objections often made against electric cars is the lack of 'electric garages'. A contract to investigate the implications of introducing 'filling' stations for battery electric cars has been placed with the Electrical Research Association. The study will consider two concepts of refuelling; battery exchange (for lead-acid and sodium sulphur batteries) and slurry recharge (for metal-air batteries). The contract, due to be completed in 1975 is already giving useful indications of the size of battery exchange stations and the implications for the electricity supply network.

These and other current projects are described in Transport and Road Research 1974, published for the Transport and Road Research Laboratory (Department of the Environment) by HM Stationery Office. Copies may be obtained from HM Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1, or through any bookseller price £2.90.

Code of practice for computer schools

The National Computing Centre has now published details of its code of practice for computer schools. The code, which was developed in consultation with schools specialising in training computer staff, aims at establishing ethical standards by which intending students and employers can judge any such school

Schools which subscribe to the code acknowledge obligations to their clients and to the general public. Features include restrictions on claims made in publicity; criteria for selection tests to be employed for new students, and the content of contracts between the students and the schools. Careers counselling and job placement, often highlighted in advertising, are specifically covered.

The code is voluntary, those who subscribe undertake to provide statistical and other information to the NCC when required to ensure that the Code is being observed. In the case of a dispute between the school and a student arising under the code, the school will submit to arbitration by an arbitrator appointed by the NCC.

Schools subscribing to the scheme are encouraged to display the seal of the NCC code of practice for computer schools. Students who would like a list of these schools can obtain it from The National Computing Centre Ltd., Oxford Road, Manchester, M1 7ED.

Parliament

Monday, 23 June

Shipbuilding companies

Mr. Iain Sproat (Aberdeen South) asked which shipbuilding yards in, respectively, England, Scotland, Wales and Ulster have gone bankrupt since 1970; how much public money, granted or loaned towards the cost of vessels under construction at the time of bankruptcy was lost in each year, as a result of the bankruptcy.

Mr. Kaufman gave the following list of shipbuilding companies which have gone into liquidation since 1970:

England
Ryton Marine
Bideford Shipyard Ltd.
Porthleven Shipyard Ltd.
Whitehall Shipyard Ltd.

Scotland
Argyll Ship and Boatbuilding Co. Ltd.
Smith and Hutton (Boatbuilders Ltd.)
Bute Ship Dock Co. Ltd.
Upper Clyde Shipbuilders
Burntisland Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.

Northern Ireland and Wales
None

Mr. Kaufman said that, apart from a sum of £1,836 paid in 1974, which might still be recovered, no public money granted or loaned towards the cost of vessels under construction had been lost.

Mr. John Evans (Newton) asked what steps are being taken by the Secretary of State for Industry to encourage capital investment in the shipbuilding and shiprepairing and marine engineering industry.

'The Government is providing assistance under the Industry Act for several of the major investment projects currently being undertaken by British shipyards, including those which build product tankers,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'The planning of future investment in the shipbuilding, shiprepairing and marine engineering industries will be one of the first tasks of the new Corporation proposed in the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill.'

Tankers

Mr. John Evans asked for information on the total amount of tonnage of product tankers on order in the world's shipyards and how many ships the tonnage represents; the tonnage and number of product tankers on order in each British shipyard; the number of product tankers on order in foreign shipyards for British owners; and the number of product tankers on order in British shipyards for (a) British shipowners and (b) foreign shipowners.

Mr. Kaufman answered that consistent information on orders for oil product tankers was published in *The Motor Ship* quarterly survey *Ships on Order*, summarised as follows:

Eleven are on order at Cammell Laird, six at Swan Hunter, two at Harland and Wolff and one at Scott Lithgow, with total deadweight tonnages of 518, 189, 132 and 32 thousand, respectively. Abroad, 27 are on order in Norway, 26 in Sweden, 12 in Germany, 11 in Japan, nine in Italy, eight in the Netherlands, seven in Yugoslavia, six each in Denmark and Finland, five in France, three each in Belgium and Pakistan, two in Canada and one each in Australia and Greece.

'The information may not be wholly accurate to the extent that shipbuilders delay reporting full details of orders and subsequent changes,' said Mr. Kaufman.

Mr. Evans then asked for similar information in respect of crude carriers.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'The available information is that the only three crude carriers of over 200,000 deadweight tons for UK registration which were cancelled between April 1974 and March 1975 were on order in UK yards and were cancelled by the shipbuilders. No such carriers ordered for foreign registration in UK yards were cancelled. The amount of compensation is a matter for the commercial judgement of the parties involved. Figures are not available. Cancellations are notified in the quarterly supplement *World Ships on Order* to *Fairplay International*, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House.'

OIL PRODUCT TANKERS REPORTED ON ORDER AT 31 MARCH 1975

	UK yards	Foreign yards	All yards	
	No.	No.	No.	Deadweight '000 tons
Orders for:				
UK registration	18	6		
Foreign registration	2			
All	20		147	4,785

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Lord Beswick
Gregor MacKenzie
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Gerald Kaufman

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:
Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

North-East Development Area

Mr. Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked for information on the percentage increase or decrease in manufacturing in the North-East Development Area when comparing 1973 with 1970; and on the prospects for that area in 1975 and 1976.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'The decrease in manufacturing employment between 1970 and 1973 in the Northern Standard Planning region was 3.2 per cent. This figure, however, may be misleading as an indicator of the change in the level of manufacturing activity unless taken in conjunction with statistics relating to net output by region, but these are not yet available beyond 1971.

'Since the whole of the region has either Development or Special Development Area status, the Government is able to offer the full range of measures to help attract new employment to the area.'

Mr. Woof also asked how much public money was expended during each of the last three years to encourage the movement of industry to the North East Development Area.

Mr. MacKenzie explained that information in the form requested was not available but annual amounts of expenditure on regional preferential assistance in the Northern Development Area for the latest available three year period were:

£ million

1971/72	1972/73	1973/74
81	71	92

All expenditure is gross.

'Regional preferential expenditure on some small items has been excluded because it cannot be broken down by area,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'No account has been taken of the differential value of tax allowances which

were available at various times during the period.'

Investment in UK industry

Mr. Robert Woof (Blaydon) inquired about Government policy to encourage a high rate of private investment in United Kingdom manufacturing industries.

'One of the main aims of the Government's economic and industrial strategy is to encourage a high rate of private investment in United Kingdom manufacturing industries and to stimulate the most efficient use of present and future investment,' said Mr. Kaufman.

Mr. Woof also asked what studies had been made into reasons for low private investment in United Kingdom manufacturing industries, as compared with other industrial countries.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'The economists in the Department of Industry have undertaken a considerable amount of work comparing investment in manufacturing in the United Kingdom with that in other major industrial countries. They have concluded that in relation to manufacturing output and growth in the UK, manufacturing investment has not been low by general international standards. The causes of the UK's low economic growth relative to that of our competitors are a matter of deep concern and are under constant study in the Department. Total investment in manufacturing as a proportion of manufacturing net output for the period 1953-71 is given in the table below.

INVESTMENT IN MANUFACTURING AS A PROPORTION OF NET OUTPUT IN MANUFACTURING 1953-71

Japan	22.8
France (A) (B)	13.9
Italy (C)	19.5
USA	10.8
UK	13.1
Germany FR	11.9

(A) Manufacturing and construction
(B) 1956-71
(C) Manufacturing, mining and quarrying, construction, electricity, gas and water.
Sources:
OECD National Accounts for all countries except Germany FR: Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftforschung, Berlin.

'These figures refer to manufacturing investment in the long term rather than in any part of the cycle: there is currently an investment recession in the United Kingdom.'

EEC directives

Mr. Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, how many directives from the European Economic Community have affected the practice of industry in the United Kingdom; and what advice he has issued on these directives since 1 January.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'It is estimated that the European Community had just under 200 directives in force at the end of March 1975 covering areas such as commercial policy, customs, transport and technical standards. It would not be feasible to estimate how many of these might specifically or indirectly affect the practice of industry. Very few directives are the direct responsibility of my Department.

'My Department provides information and advice to Parliament and to industry and commerce on Community legislation as necessary.'

EEC regional policy

Mr. Woof asked for a list of EEC regulations and directives relating to regional policy, with draft regulations and directives on regional policy in force.

Mr. MacKenzie told him that in pursuance of Community regional policy the EEC Council of Ministers has made the following regulations:

Regulation (EEC) No. 724/75 of 18 March 1975 establishing a European Regional Development Fund

Financial Regulation (75/184/Euratom, ECSC, EEC) of 18 March 1975 relating to the Regional Development Fund.

'No directive has been made to this end,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'No draft regulation or directive has legislative force.'

'How many inquiries has the Department for Industry received since 1 January 1974, from EEC companies contemplating new projects in the development areas of the Northern Region?' asked Mr. Woof.

'My Department's Regional Office in Newcastle has received 19 inquiries since 1 January 1974 from EEC companies (other than UK companies) contemplating new projects in the Northern Region,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked about action being taken to draw to the attention of companies the financial facilities available to industry from the EEC; and if steps would be taken to publish the availability of such financial assistance as widely as possible in future.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'Details of loans available to industry from the European Investment Bank and the ECSC are widely publicised through, for example, the Department's booklet "Incentives in Industry in the Areas for Expansion" and my Department will continue to take every opportunity to make these facilities known to industry.'

Imports of timber

Mr. Hamish Watt (Banff) asked what steps were proposed by the Secretary of State for Industry to reduce the present high cost of imports of timber and timber products.

'Timber and timber products are international commodities whose price is set by world supply and demand,' answered Mr. Kaufman. 'The UK is not self-sufficient in this area and our ability to influence world prices is, therefore, extremely limited. Imports in 1975 are, however, expected to fall appreciably.'

Imports of wool textiles

Dr. Keith Hampson (Ripon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry for: 'The details of the case which he has presented to the European Commission on the need to conclude agreements with low cost producers of wool textile goods to limit the level of imports into the United Kingdom, and details of the position adopted by the Commission indicating the outstanding differences.'

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'The UK wool textile industry, which exports its products world-wide and makes a major contribution to the UK balance of trade, has not put forward a case for limiting imports of wool textile goods from low-cost producers. Imports from state-trading countries are already controlled by quotas. In consequence the question of the UK putting a case to the EEC Commission has not arisen.'

HS 146

Mr. Paul B. Rose (Manchester, Blackley) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry, would review the HS 146 project with a view to recommencing full scale work at the earliest possible time.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend made a statement on the HS 146 in the House on 9 December. Subsequently he set up a Tripartite Working Group, including the trades unions, Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd. and departmental officials to prepare advice on the future of the project. They have now prepared a report which will be carefully considered. The Government policy as stated on 9 December keeps options open for the future and a small programme of work has been authorised at HSA to ensure that full-scale work could re-start smoothly at a future date if that is decided.'

Postal deliveries

Mr. Richard Luce (Shoreham) asked what proportion of leters were posted first and second class, respectively, in 1973, 1974 and since 17 March 1975.

Mr. MacKenzie said that, according to the Post Office, the proportions were as follows:

Per cent

	First class	Second class
1972/73	46.1	53.9
1973/74	46.6	53.4
1974/75	46.2	53.8

'I am not in a position to give comprehensive figures of the proportions posted since 17 March,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'The figures available, based on statistical sampling methods, cover the period 31 March to 3 May when the proportions were first class, 44.4 per cent and second class, 55.6 per cent.'

EEC policy on consumer affairs

Mr. Woof asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what effective consideration has been given by the European Commission for consumer affairs and protection.

Mr. Williams answered: 'In 1973 a consumer information and protection division was created within the Commission and a Consumers' Consultative Committee was established to advise the Commission. The Commission's preliminary programme for consumer information and protection was approved in principle by the Council of Ministers on 14 April 1975.'

EEC rules of competition

Mr. Woof asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would publish the EEC rules of competition related to restrictive agreements affecting trade between Member States.

'These have already been published by HMSO,' said Mr. Williams. 'The relevant rules are contained in Articles 85 and 87-90 of the Treaty of Rome; the implementing regulations are to be found in the publication "Secondary Legislation of the European Communities. Volume 4: Competition".'

Re-pricing existing stocks

Mr. John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, how many complaints about retailers re-pricing existing stocks on their shelves have been investigated by the Price Commission; in

how many cases the complaint proved to be justified; and what action was taken against the retailers concerned in such cases.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'Such information is not kept in this form by the Price Commission. However, I understand that when complaints are investigated the Price Commission usually find that they arise from the repricing of articles with a slow stock turn or goods withdrawn from special offer. Re-pricing in these circumstances is not precluded by the Code.'

EEC levies on foodstuffs

Mr. John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would make it her policy to resist the imposition of the further stages of Common Market levies on foodstuffs imported from elsewhere until such time as the rise in the United Kingdom cost of living has been halted.

'Levies on imports into the UK are at present abated by the value of accession compensatory amounts,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'The transitional stages towards the adoption of EEC prices and farm support mechanisms, including levies, is determined by the Treaty of Accession. The Government is resolved, however, to ensure that the future development of the CAP takes greater account of the interests of the consumer.'

Butter prices

Mr. Alf Bates (Bebington and Ellesmere Port) wanted to know the average price of (a) home-produced butter, (b) imported butter, and (c) margarine in each of the last available 12 months and what was the Government subsidy in each case.

Mr. Maclennan gave the following average retail prices of butter and magarine, derived from information collected for the purposes of the General Index of Retail Prices, together with the value of the general subsidy on butter. There is no subsidy on margarine.

UK trade

A statement from the Secretary of State for Trade was requested by Mr. William Molloy (Ealing North) on the trade figures for the last available date.

Mr. Shore said: 'So far this year substantial progress has been made in reducing our overseas visible trade deficit. In the three months ended May 1975 our visible trade deficit was £424 million, seasonally adjusted, compared with £958 million in the previous three months. Trade in non-oil goods improved to show a surplus of £221 million compared with a deficit of £96 million while the deficit on trade in oil at £645 million was £217 million lower than in the previous three months.'

Balance of international trade

Mr. Philip Holland (Carlton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what discussions he has had recently in OECD regarding the balance of international trade; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Shore answered: 'The international balance of payments situation was discussed at the meeting of Ministers of OECD countries, under the chairmanship of my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer, which I attended on 29 May. The Ministers decided to renew for a further year the declaration which they adopted in May last year and under which they declared their determination to avoid introducing new restrictions on trade and other current account transactions. In accepting this declaration on behalf of the United Kingdom, I made it clear that I did so only on the understanding that the countries in a stronger economic position recognised the obligation to play their part by following sufficiently expansionary domestic policies so as to sustain international demand and to avoid making the problem for the deficit countries intolerable.'

Concorde

Mr. Barney Hayhoe (Hounslow, Brentford and Isleworth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what were the latest figures for the landing and take-off noise of Concorde; and how these compared with the current generation of large jets in airline service.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'The manufacturers' latest estimate remains as quoted in the reply which my Hon. Friend gave to the Hon. Member on 17 December last. This is that Concorde's noise levels on Certification at the increased weight of 400,000 lb. will be 118 EPNdB on take-off and 115 EPNdB on landing. These compare with large jets currently in airline service as follows:'

	EPNdB	
	Take-off	Landing
VC10	110	112
Boeing 707-320C	114	120
DC8-61	115	116
Boeing 747-200 B/F	108	107
Lockheed 10-11	97	103
DC10-30	104	107

Mr. Barney Hayhoe (Hounslow, Brentford and Isleworth) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade, would arrange a series of Concorde landings and take-offs at Heathrow so that those living near the airport might assess the noise nuisance.

'No,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'A substantial number of Concorde flights to and from Heathrow are, however, planned to take place between July and September as part of the endurance flying programme. These flights will be monitored for noise purposes.'

Mr. Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) asked for a further statement about the introduction of Concorde into airline service with British Airways.

'I currently expect British Airways to start commercial services with Concorde at the beginning of 1976 simultaneously with Air France,' said Mr. Clinton Davis.

Trade with Japan

Mr. Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would make representations to the Japanese Government asking them to consider outlawing the registration of British geographical names as trade marks in view of the effect of their present practices on British trade.

Mr. Deakins said: 'Our Embassy in Tokyo has made representations on the use of British geographical names as trade marks which the Japanese authorities have undertaken to consider carefully.'

Trade with Brazil

Mr. Tam Dalyell (West Lothian) asked when the Secretary of State for Trade hopes to make a further visit to Brazil.

Mr. Shore said: 'While no date has been fixed I look forward to a further visit to Brazil in due course as part of the closer Governmental consultation provided for by the Memorandum of Understanding between our two Governments which will be signed here next autumn.'

ECGD

Mr. Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked: 'Is the Secretary of State for Trade satisfied with the workings of the Export Credit Guarantees Department?'

'Yes Sir,' said Mr. Deakins. 'In the past 12 months our export credit arrangements have been reinforced by a number of new facilities. It is my intention that the services to exporters available from ECGD should overall stand comparison with those of any other country.'

Pence per lb.

	Butter				Margarine	
	Home produced	New Zealand	Danish	Value of subsidy*	Standard quality	Lower priced
18 June 1974	23.8	21.8	24.3	5½	17.8	16.6
16 July 1974	23.9	22.3	24.9	5½	17.4	16.8
20 August 1974	24.0	22.6	25.1	5½	19.0	17.4
17 September 1974	24.2	22.9	25.7	5½	19.8	18.0
15 October 1974	24.6	23.0	26.7	9	21.4	19.6
12 November 1974	25.1	23.4	27.7	9	22.2	20.4
10 December 1974	26.0	23.8	28.8	9	22.8	21.4
14 January 1975	27.1	25.3	29.4	9	23.2	22.0
18 February 1975	27.7	26.0	29.7	9	23.2	22.2
18 March 1975	30.0	28.6	30.4	11	24.2	22.8
15 April 1975	30.8	29.1	30.7	11	24.6	23.0
13 May 1975	31.2	29.2	30.6	11	24.6	23.0

* The butter subsidy was increased on 7 October 1974 and 3 March 1975.

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Proposed public export agency

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would study the possibility of setting up a public export agency to promote markets not developed by private firms.

'The idea of a public export agency or selling corporation is looked at from time to time,' replied Mr. Deakins. 'I am doubtful, however, that such a body could make a significant contribution in promoting exports, nor is it likely to attract the support of companies with worth-while export potential given the services provided by export merchants, buying houses, the British Overseas Trade Board, banks and the like.'

EEC pigmeat regulation

Mr. Woof asked if duties on pork and bacon have ceased on United Kingdom adoption of the Community pigmeat regulations.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'From 1 February 1973 the United Kingdom adopted the Community pigmeat regime in acordance with the provisions of Article 60 of the Act of Accession. The Import Duties (General) (No. 4) Order 1972 (SI 1972 No. 1909) operative from 1 February 1973 removed the import duties applicable to pork and bacon imports from both the EEC members and other countries. In certain circumstances these goods may be subject to levies in accordance with the pigmeat regime.'

EEC – trade agreements with third countries

Mr. Woof asked for a list of the products, whether agriculture or industrial, concerning which the United Kingdom as a member of the EEC no longer has authority to conclude trade agreements with third countries.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The United Kingdom no longer has authority to conclude agreements with third countries covering trade questions, such as tariffs and quotas, which fall within the Common Commercial Policy of the EEC. This applies whatever the products concerned. We are still free to conclude agreements covering questions, such as economic co-operation, which do not fall within the Common Commercial Policy.'

Trade with Japan

Mr. John Parker (Barking, Dagenham) wanted to know the total value of exports to and imports from Japan for each of the last three available years.

Mr. Deakins told him that during 1972, 1973 and 1974 imports were £315, £444 and £570 million cif and exports £173, £273, and £319 million fob respectively

Trade with USSR

Mr. Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what recent negotiations he has had with the Government of the USSR on the development of trade.

'I led the British delegation to the meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission in Moscow last month,' answered Mr. Shore. 'My discussions at that time with Soviet Ministers clearly indicated that there are good prospects for a significant improvement in our trade with the Soviet Union.'

A statement on the renegotiation of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement when it ends in December, was requested by Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury).

Mr. Shore answered: 'Notice of termination of the 1969 Long Term Trade Agreement with the Soviet Union will have to be given by the end of September 1975.'

Trade with South Africa

Mr. Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart) asked for information on the total of exports to and imports from South Africa in the most recent annual period for which figures are available.

'During the year ending May 1975 exports to South Africa were £616 million and imports £503 million on the usual Overseas Trade Statistics basis,' said Mr. Deakins. 'Our exports increased by 46 per cent over the previous 12 months.'

Hosiery imports

Mr. Greville Janner (Leicester West) asked for figures showing the value of hosiery exports and of hosiery imports for the latest convenient period.

Mr. Deakins replied that for the 12 months ended May 1975 exports of hosiery including knitted underwear and outerwear were £83 million and imports £133 million on the usual Overseas Trade Statistics basis.

Exports to Commonwealth countries

Mr. David Knox (Leek) asked what percentage of the United Kingdom's exports went to Commonwealth countries in each of the past three years.

'18, 17 and 16 for 1972, 1973 and 1974 respectively,' said Mr. Deakins. 'The 1972 figure excludes Bangladesh for which no separate information was available.'

Imports of pvc leathercloth

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked if steps would be taken to reduce the level of imported PVC leathercloth.

Mr. Deakins said: 'Representatives of the industry recently met officials of my Department and the Department of Industry. They are now considering in the light of the advice they were given whether to submit a formal application for action against imports.'

Imports of oil

Mr. Woof asked for information on the total volume of oil imports into the United Kingdom in 1973 and 1974; and what percentage of the total was derived, respectively, from each of the oil-producing countries.

Mr. Deakins said that total imports of petroleum and petroleum products during 1973 and 1974 were 133 and 127 million tons respectively. He gave the percentage distribution by country of consignment as follows:

Per cent

	1973	1974
Saudi Arabia	20.3	27.9
Kuwait	15.7	13.7
Iran	15.6	11.6
Libya	8.9	7.0
Nigeria	6.6	6.1
Qatar	3.1	3.7
Venezuela	3.4	3.1
Abu Dhabi	2.0	3.3
Iraq	1.8	2.5
Other countries (a)	22.6	21.1

(a) Includes goods consigned from, inter alia, Netherlands and the Irish Republic.

Gas in North Sea oilfields

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked when the Secretary of State for Energy proposes to set up the commission to study the development of associated gas in North Sea oil fields.

Mr. Smith answered: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend does not propose to set up a commission but to commission an independent feasibility study as the previous Secretary of State (Mr. Varley) said in his reply to My Hon. Friend the Member for Maryhill (J. Craigen), on 20 May (WA Cols 333-4 Vol. 892). Terms of reference are at present being prepared and My Rt. Hon. Friend hopes early next month to invite selected consultants to submit tenders. It is too early to forecast the date of the consultant's report.'

Oil refining

Mr. Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked the Secretary of State for Energy for an estimate of (a) the oil refining requirement and (b) the oil refining capacity in the United Kingdom during 1975 and each of the subsequent 10 years.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'UK net refining capacity at the end of 1974 was about 130 million tons per annum, compared to a throughput of 110 million tons in that year, and a surplus of capacity is expected to persist in 1975 and 1976. Some expansions at existing refineries can be expected, but the main prospects for increased capacity are new refinery projects in the Thames Estuary and Cromarty Firth, which have either received planning permission or been the subject of Public Inquiries. If most of these developments go ahead, total net capacity is expected to be of the order of 150 million tons per annum in the early 1980s, which should be sufficient to meet our own needs and provide for some exports of refined products. My Department is in continuing discussion with the oil companies about their refining plans.'

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Tuesday, 24 June

Insurance companies

Mr. Wigley asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would seek powers to impose a requirement on insurance companies that, in the case of takeover by another company, each individual policyholder be required to acquiesce to the continuation of his policy or be given the option of redeeming it without any financial loss.

'No,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'My Rt. Hon. Friend has powers under the Insurance Companies Act 1974 which may be invoked to protect policyholders where there is a change in the control of an insurance company. These will be strengthened by the Insurance Companies (Changes of Director, Controller or Manager) Regulations 1975 (SI 959/1975) which come into operation on 16 September 1975. After that date My Rt. Hon. Friend's prior approval will be required for any proposed change of control.'

British Caledonian Airways

Mr. Donald Stewart (Western Isles) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'What action he has taken designed to obtain rights from foreign governments to enable British Caledonian Airways to operate on the routes to Toronto, Boston, Atlanta Houston, Bahrain and Singapore?'

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'An approach was made in October 1973 to Singapore suggesting talks the following month, which Singapore declined until the airlines concerned had come to some satisfactory agreement with each other. The appeals against British Caledonian's licences for the other routes were dismissed on 31 December 1973. I am satisfied that the impact of the fuel crises, the route rationalisation talks taking place between British Airways and British Caledonian, and recently my civil aviation policy review, made it premature to approach the other governments concerned.'

'Compass Rose'

Mr. Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) asked if the preliminary inquiry into the loss of the Compass Rose *had been concluded.*

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'My Inspector's inquiries are still continuing. The French Government have also appointed an Inspector to investigate, and he is expected to visit this country shortly for discussions.

'I understand that the French Foreign Ministry have given instructions to their Ambassador in Panama to make representations to the Panamanian Government about the need for a formal inquiry into the loss of the vessel.'

Retail Price Index

Mr. Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked by how many times the rate of inflation has increased in the last three months, in terms of three-months increases in the retail price index, expressed at an annual rate.

Mrs. Williams replied that increases in the Retail Price Index during recent three monthly periods and expressed as an annual rate have been as follows:

Three months ended	Percentage increase at an annual rate
1975 March	25.6
April	34.4
May	53.1

'The figures for the three months to May 1975 was very much influenced by the increases in indirect taxation introduced in the budget,' said Mrs Williams.

Polyurethane foam

Mr. Jim Lester (Beeston) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has any plans to review the use of polyurethane filling in modern furniture construction following the remarks of the Nottingham city coroner about the risk to life from toxic fumes.

Mr. Williams answered: 'A three year programme of research into the fire hazards of plastics materials, including polyurethane foam, used in the manufacture of furniture and furnishings, is coming to an end this month. In the light of its findings, I intend to review the degree of hazard presented by these materials in the home. I shall also study the coroner's remarks about the recent tragic fire to which the Hon. Member refers.'

Industrial development in Leek

Mr. David Knox (Leek) asked how many industrial development certificates were granted in the Leek parliamentary constituency during each of the past five years.

Mr. MacKenzie, saying that statistics in respect of industrial development certificates were related to Employment Exchange Areas, gave figures for the Bidulph, Cheadle, Leek and Kidsgrove EEAs combined as follows:

Year	Certificates issued*
1970	14
1971	5
1972	5
1973	8
1974	2
1975 (1st quarter)	Nil

* There were no refusals during this period.

Exemption limits were raised in December 1970 and July 1972 and lowered in September 1974.

North Sea costs escalation

Mr. Frank McElhone (Glasgow, Queen's Park) asked the Secretary of State for Energy what steps he is taking to identify and contain the escalation of costs for offshore oil and gas operations.

Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, replied. His answer is published on page 5.

Power stations

Mr. Wigley (Caernarvon) asked for a list of the names, date of start and date of completion (where appropriate) of all power stations constructed or under construction since 1960, by the CEGB.

Mr. Benn gave the following list:

Name of station	Start on site	Date of completion
Conventional steam stations		
Drakelow C	1960	1967
Ferrybridge C	1961	1968
Tilbury B	1961	1970
West Burton B	1961	1968
Eggborough	1962	1969
Fawley	1962	1971
Aberthaw B	1963	1975
Fiddlers Ferry	1963	1973
Ironbridge B	1963	1969
Kingsnorth	1963	1973
Ratcliffe	1963	1970
Cottam	1964	1970
Pembroke	1964	1971
Rugeley B	1964	1971
Didcot	1965	1975
Drax	1966	1975
Grain	1971	*
Ince B	1972	*
Littlebrook D	1973	*
Nuclear stations:		
Dungeness A	1960	1965
Sizewell A	1961	1966
Oldbury A	1962	1968
Wylfa	1962	1971
Dungeness B	1966	*
Hinckley Point B	1967	*
Hartlepool	1968	*
Heysham	1970	*
Hydro-electric stations:		
Dinorwic	1974	*
Main gas turbines:		
Croydon	1963	1965
Earley	1963	1965
Hastings	1963	1966
Lister Drive, Liverpool	1963	1965
Norwich A	1963	1966
Rye House	1963	1965
Leicester	1972	1975
Letchworth	1974	*
Ocker Hill, Tipton, Staffs	1974	*
Taylors Lane, London Borough of Brent	1974	*
Watford	1974	*

* Not yet completed.

Wednesday, 25 June

Elephant tusks

Mr. Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight) spoke of the rapidly diminishing number of Indian elephants and asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would restrict the imports of raw and polished elephant tusks and all products made out of ivory.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'It is the Government's intention to implement later this year the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. We would expect then to restrict imports of parts of endangered species that are readily recognisable. This would certainly cover elephant tusks.'

EEC–Spain trade agreement

Mr. Donald Anderson (Swansea East) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would press for an early resumption of negotiations between Spain and the enlarged Community to eliminate the difference in duty levels between United Kingdom exports to Spain and from the original EEC countries.

Mr. Deakins says: 'Yes. I am anxious that a new agreement should be reached between the Community and Spain as soon as possible. My latest information is that the negotiations will resume shortly.'

Import surveillance of textile goods

Mr. Adam Butler (Bosworth) asked if the import surveillance of textile goods would be extended to include knitwear and other garments.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'The Government is considering the British Textile Confederation's request for import surveillance to be extended to cover clothing, made-up goods and knitwear. An announcement will be made shortly.'

Effects of lower steel prices

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would ask the Price Commission to report to her on their monitoring of the effect that the cuts in steel prices recently announced by the British Steel Corporation would have on the prices to the consumer of motor vehicles, cookers, refrigerators, washing machines, etc.

'Immediately tne BSC announced these price reductions, the Price Commission wrote to manufacturers in the relevant sectors to ask them about the effect,' said Mr. Williams. 'I have asked the Price Commission to let me know the result and to deal with this matter in their Report for the June-August quarter, which will be laid before the House under Schedule 1 to the Counter-Inflation Act.'

Regional aid to North West

Mr. Fred Silvester (Manchester, Withington) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to tabulate for each year from 1964 to 1974 the value of total regional aid, the amount of regional aid paid to firms operating in the North West and the percentage of the total that this represents.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

£ million

	North West Region	Great Britain	%
1964/65	5.5	27.5	20.0
1965/66	5.5	29.5	18.6
1966/67	9	45	20.0
1967/68	29	154	18.8
1968/69	52	273	19.0
1969/70	60	303	19.8
1970/71	60	311	19.3
1971/72	51	275	18.5
1972/73	42	256	16.4
1973/74	58	348	16.7

Figures are for regionally preferential expenditure only and some small items have been excluded from the North West totals because amounts cannot be broken down by area. All expenditure is gross and no account has been taken of the differential value of tax allowances which were available at various times during the period.

Advance factory construction

Mr. Gordon A. T. Bagier (Sunderland South) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what further programme of advance factory construction he proposes for the assisted areas.

Mr. MacKenzie's reply, which was briefly reported in *Trade and Industry* last week (page 730) was as follows: 'In conjunction with the wide range of financial incentives made available to industry by the Government in the assisted areas, advance factories play an important and effective role. They attract industry to the particular locations which most need new jobs and provide for a diversification of job opportunities in areas heavily dependent on a few large employers.

'Beginning in July 1974 the Government has announced four separate programmes in its new series of rolling programmes designed to respond more frequently and more flexibly to the needs of the assisted areas. Forty-seven of these factories are already under construction, and preparatory work on the remainder is well advanced. To encourage further investment in the assisted areas I have now authorised an additional 30 factories totalling some 550,000 sq. ft. Allowing for necessary preparatory work, construction is expected to begin in the financial year 1976/77, and so the programme will provide a continued flow of building as the present series is completed. My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Scotland will be announcing the locations of the factories to be built in Scotland. My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Wales announced to the House in the Welsh Grand Committee on 7 May the Welsh part of the programme. The following is the list:

LOCATION AND SIZE OF FACTORIES

Location	Size (sq. ft.)	(sq. m.)
England		
Northern Region:		
Hartlepool	2 × 15,000	2,700
Derwentside (Consett or Tanfield Lea)	25,000	2,250
Hebburn	2 × 15,000	2,700
Blyth	10,000 (terrace units)	900
Ashington	10,000	900
Thornaby	15,000 (terrace units)	1,350
	120,000	10,800
North West Region:		
Merseyside	25,000	2,250
Barrow-in-Furness	15,000 (terrace units)	1,350
Blackpool	15,000	1,350
Altham (Hyndburn)	15,000	1,350
Bacup or Haslingden	10,000	900
	80,000	7,200
Yorkshire and Humberside:		
Hull	25,000	2,250
Rotherham	25,000	2,250
	50,000	4,500
Wales		
Gaerwen	10,000	900
Caernarvon	10,000	900
Pwllheli	2 × 5,000	900
Milford Haven	10,000	900
Penyfan	10,000	900
Kenfig	50,000	4,500
	100,000	9,000
Scotland	200,000	18,000
GRAND TOTAL	550,000	49,500

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. NRDC is participating in joint ventures with industry on an increasing scale. By supporting projects NRDC makes it possible for individual firms or groups of companies to undertake and accelerate the development and production of new products and processes of national importance. The corporation welcomes submissions in confidence from firms who have promising new projects to launch in any branch of industry or commerce. The conditions for its considering proposals of this kind are set out in a leaflet which may be obtained on application, either by writing to the National Research Development Corporation, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL, or by telephoning 01-828 3400.

Cheese subsidy

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) inquired about the average weekly saving for a typical family of two adults and two children arising from the cheese subsidy.

Mr. Maclennan told him that, on the basis of the National Food Survey results for the first quarter of 1975, the estimated average saving was about 9p per week.

Regional development incentives

Mr. John Pardoe (North Cornwall) asked for an estimate of the cost of all types of regional development incentives available in each development area, respectively, per insured employee in that area since 1964-65.

Mr. MacKenzie told him that the information requested was not available in precisely the form requested for all the years in question. He gave the table below showing the amount per employee spent on regional preferential assistance by Assisted Area since 1966/67.

AMOUNT SPENT ON REGIONAL PREFERENTIAL ASSISTANCE (1) PER EMPLOYEE (2) BY ASSISTED AREA

	1966/67	1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Northern Development Area	8.7	35.8	56.9	65.6	65.7	60.4	52.7	66.9
South-Western Development Area	7.2	14.8	44.4	44.1	58.4	48.9	34.0	39.9
Merseyside Development Area	11.0	3.6	63.9	74.4	75.9	75.1	54.2	70.2
Scottish Development Area	8.2	26.9	48.7	51.1	50.7	44.1	50.4	57.1
Welsh Development Area	10.6	34.3	66.0	69.7	76.1	65.4	61.3	82.3
Intermediate Areas	—	—	—	—	2.5	3.3	1.0	5.1
All Assisted Areas (3)	9.1	31.5	56.1	62.2	51.3	43.8	26.7	35.8

Notes: (1) All expenditure is gross and the totals used in the calculations include some small items which cannot be broken down by area. The boundaries of the Assisted Areas have altered over the period.
(2) Numbers of employees for each area have been taken from the mid-year card count from 1966-70, from the mid-year census from 1971-74.
(3) Excluding Derelict Land Clearance Area.

We can give your expansion plans a solid foundation.

A solid foundation for expansion means sound financial support if plans are to become realities.

If you expand in one of the Areas of Expansion you can qualify for these capital grants towards the cost of new buildings and, in many areas, of new plant and machinery as well.

In addition, for projects providing new jobs, you can get interest relief grants or loans on favourable terms, some with interest-free periods.

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We can show you Government factories in the Areas for Expansion which can be rent-free for two years.

Another important benefit in many of the Areas is the Regional Employment Premium which is paid to manufacturers for full-time employees – now £3 per week for men and £1.50 for women.

All this help is available to manufacturers already in the Areas for Expansion who plan to expand or modernise. Firms moving into an Area get this help and may also qualify for substantial help towards their removal costs.

EXPANSION TAKES TIME

In fact, it'll probably take at least a year – maybe more – to turn your plans into sites, new factories, plant and machinery.

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HELP TOO FOR SERVICE INDUSTRIES

There is also financial help available towards the cost of moving company offices, research and development units and service industry undertakings into the Areas for Expansion: up to 5 years rent-free premises (or equivalent help towards purchase), substantial removal grants for employees moved and towards other removal expenses, as well as other financial assistance.

HOW TO GET TIME ON YOUR SIDE

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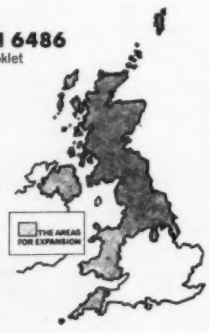

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Please send me full details of the benefits available in the Areas for Expansion

Name_____

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Company_____

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Address_____

The Areas for Expansion TI 447 G

Thursday, 26 June

Import surveillance of textiles

Dr. Keith Hampson (Ripon) spoke of 'the threat to the textile industry because of the continued delay in completing bilateral arrangements under the MFA and the consequent increase in the import of cheap garments', and asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would impose quotas on wool-predominant suits from state-trading countries and extend the import-surveillance scheme to clothing.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'We are currently considering the extension of surveillance licensing to clothing and my Department is examining whether there is a case for safeguarding action as regards imports of woollen suits.'

Dumping of steel products

Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (Kettering) inquired about protests made at the dumping of steel products by the Italian steel producer Italisider.

'No protests have been made to Her Majesty's Government,' said Mr. Kaufman, 'but I am aware that BISPA, supported by BSC, has called for an investigation by the European Commission into alleged contraventions of the Treaty of Paris pricing rules by Siderital, a London based company, which is believed to act for Italisider.'

Norton Villiers Triumph

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) asked what representations have been received advocating the nationalisation of Norton-Villiers-Triumph; what answers have been given; and for a statement on the financial and employment prospects for the United Kingdom motor cycle industry.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'The Government's future policy towards the motor cycle industry is under consideration but I am not yet ready to make a statement. Trade Unions representing workers in the motor cycle industry have recommended that Norton Villiers Triumph Ltd. should be taken into public ownership and I have undertaken to bear the possibility in mind but I have entered into no commitments.'

Industry in West Midlands

Mr. J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked what steps are being taken to encourage industry in the West Midlands to make full use of financial facilities available to industry from EEC sources.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'The financial facilities available to industry from EEC sources are for the most part for regional development purposes. However my Department draws the attention of industry to any opportunities for EEC finance that do arise. Substantial loans from the ECSC have been made to the National Coal Board for its collieries at Littleton and Trentham.'

Friday, 27 June

Imperial quantity packaging

Mr. Tony Durant (Reading North) asked when the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection expects to introduce proposals to amend the Weights and Measures Act to remove the imperial alternative in the making of prescribed quantity regulations.

Mr. Williams said: 'I appreciate that we shall in due course need to be able to phase out prescribed imperial quantity packaging, both in the consumer's interest and to enable us to comply in due course with our Community obligations and I intend to seek the necessary powers from Parliament at an appropriate date.'

Government assistance to ICL

Mr. Kilroy-Silk asked for details of Government assistance to ICL for the production of their new range of computers.

'Government assistance to ICL has been for development rather than production,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'The £40 million support programme for ICL over the four years ending September 1976, announced to the House on 4 July 1973, is mainly for the development of the company's new 2900 series of computers.'

Patent applications

Mr. Andrew Faulds (Warley East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what plans he has to speed the processing of patent applications, in view of the Patent Office's backlog of approximately 50,000 unexamined applications.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The instructions to the technical staff of the Patent Office emphasise that they concentrate on matters affecting the validity of the patents when granted and their performance is monitored by quality control. The present backlog of unexamined complete specifications is equivalent to 14 months' filings. This year's recruitment is expected to yield 33 new technical staff. With their aid, the backlog should be reduced by about one month's filings by the end of the year; unless the filing rate increases, a substantial further reduction in backlog should be made in 1976.'

Egg, butter and cheese imports

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) inquired about the volume of egg imports from the EEC for the year to date; and for a comparison with the corresponding period for each year since the Treaty of Accession; and about the volume of butter, cheese and milk powder imports for the year to date from EEC, Commonwealth and other sources, respectively, compared with the corresponding period for each year since the Treaty of Accession.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information:

Tons

	January-May 1973	January-May 1974	January-May 1975
Eggs, including dried and frozen (SITC(R) 025.0)			
EEC	7,976	11,289	10,418
Butter (SITC(R) 023.0)			
EEC	92,461	111,538	139,043
Commonwealth	103,418	62,203	47,071
Rest of world	6,546	25,067	170
Cheese and curd (SITC(R) 024.0)			
EEC	39,239	30,128	40,024
Commonwealth	33,266	2,646	8,317
Rest of world	3,049	1,334	1,112
Dried milk and cream (STIC(R) 022.2)			
EEC	13,995	8,807	9,641
Commonwealth	1,412	99	0
Rest of world	1,158	21	2,060

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Britain

A university promotes commercial enterprise

Roy Stiles visits the Cambridge Science Park

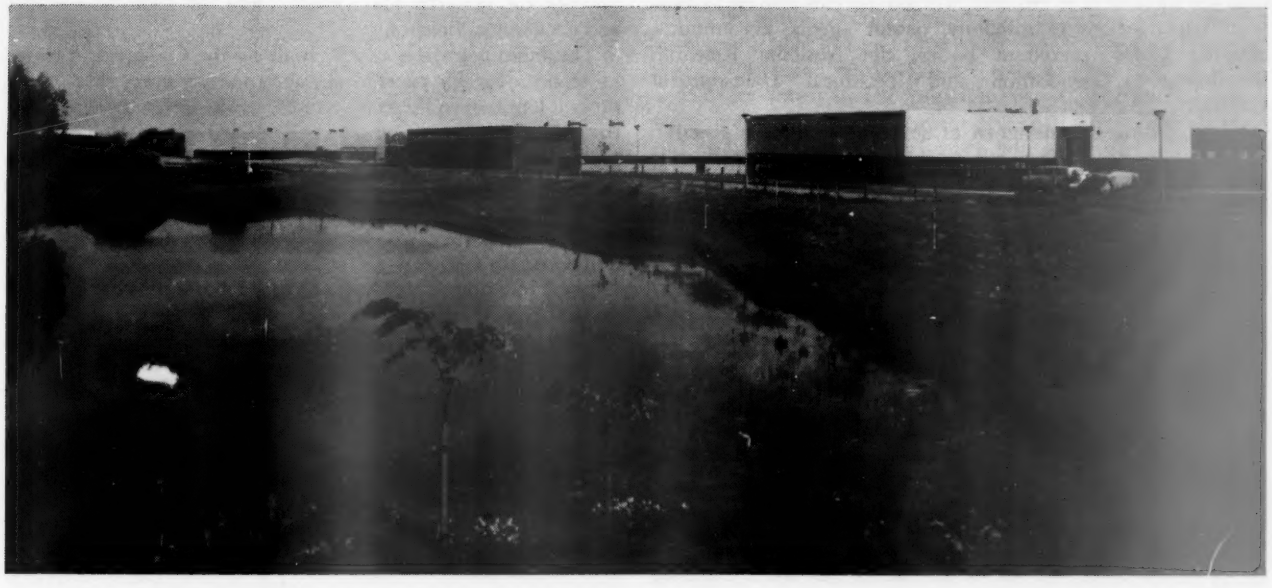
A criticism frequently aired in Britain is that, while we have an abundance of inventive talent and a well-developed ability and capacity for research, we fail to exploit fully this wealth in practical commercial terms, even sometimes allowing foreign industry to steal the benefit of British skill. The country's universities and other research organisations are also accused on occasions of self-indulgently being too purist in their research activity, considering the needs of industry and commerce as of only secondary importance.

While the Government, through such means as the National Research Development Corporation and the Department of Industry Research Requirement Boards, works towards combating this criticism by trying to ensure that as much as possible of the nation's research effort is commercially exploited, the universities have not been unaware of the pointing fingers, whether or not they have been justifiably pointed in their direction. There has in recent times evolved a growing relationship between the academic world and industry, and in many instances it is the universities who take the initiative in promoting this relationship.

An outstanding example of this initiative is the Cambridge Science Park, a small industrial estate of science-based companies on the northern outskirts of Cambridge City, which was formally opened last week (24 June) by Sir Alan Hodgkin, President of the Royal Society and Fellow of Trinity College. In launching this development Trinity College had as the objective: 'To achieve a moderate growth of science-based industry in Cambridge, in order to take maximum advantage of scientific expertise, equipment and libraries available in the area and to increase feed-back of all kinds from such industry to local research laboratories.'

Moves to form the Science Park began in November/December 1969, only about a month after a committee headed by Sir Nevill Mott, then Cavendish Professor of Experimental Physics, published a report on 22 October, recommending expansion of science-based industry in close proximity to Cambridge. In making this recommendation the committee had in mind various factors, including the encouragement then being given in the national interest to universities to collaborate with industry through joint research and development programmes to facilitate the technological advance of the country. Also Cambridge and the surrounding district contains one of the largest concentrations of university and other research laboratories in the country, and so would make a particularly suitable location for such a project. The committee was also aware that experience had shown that, ideally, science-based industrial units attempting to achieve productive collaboration with university departments should be close to the city.

Authoritative confirmation that Trinity College was proceeding on the right lines came in 1971 from Sir Alec Cairncross in his presidential address – entitled 'Government and Innovation' – to the British Association. Sir Alec commented: 'There is a general agreement that a new technology is spread mainly through the movement of ideas men from one application to another, often in a quite different field. The circulation of ideas on paper is a less effective means of communication. One particular form of circulation that might be more fully developed is that between the science and technology departments of the universities... and industrial establishments. These contacts would be doubly valuable in showing academic staff the range of problems that would have wide commercial application and in allowing industry to benefit from new ideas.'



Top, left:
The new main road into the Science Park. This view also shows all four factories at present established on the park. They are (from left to right) : Cambridge Consultants (Training) Ltd., Laser-Scan Laboratories Ltd., LKB Biochrom Ltd. and Goodfellow Metals Ltd.

Above:
This view of the park shows the lake and landscaped nature of the estate. The picture also demonstrates the low density ratio – about one to six – of building to land area.

Although the concept of a science park is new to this country, it has gained wide acceptance in the United States of America, where there are, in varying form, at least 82 science-based industrial parks, although only 27 of these have been wholly restricted to science-based industry, as in the case of the Cambridge estate. Some details on the situation in the USA, where the parks tend to be on a much larger scale, are given later in this article.

At Cambridge, once the idea had been sown, action came quickly. On 23 January 1970, little more than a month after first thoughts on such a scheme had been expressed at Trinity, the College Council gave approval in principle to a science park, and by the following April application had been made to the local authority for outline planning permission.

Outline planning permission was eventually received in October 1971, at the same time as a use-agreement was entered into with the county council. By April 1973, work had started on building the roads, services and the first of the factory units, following receipt of planning permissions. In September 1973, the first of the units was ready for handing over to its tenants, Laser-Scan. Today there are four factories on the Park, the last unit having been handed over to Cambridge Consultants (Training) Ltd. in April of this year.

An active supporter and proponent of a science-park for Cambridge had been Dr. J. R. G. Bradfield, who, as senior bursar of Trinity College, is now responsible for the administration of the Science Park. The 13½-acre (5.46 hectare) area, which forms the present Science Park, is part of a 140 acre block, all of which has been in the possession of Trinity College for more than a century : indeed much of the land in question has been owned by the College and its predecessors since 1443. During the Second World War the land was used by the United States Army as a parking lot for tanks and other equipment, and since that time had remained derelict. The conversion into a science park of part of the property involved modification of the Cambridge Development Plan, making reference necessary not only to the rural, city and county councils but also to the Department of the Environment.

A feature of the development is the landscaping and the low density ratio – about 1 : 6 – of building to site area. Landscaping of the site, which has the benefit of an existing lake, is being undertaken by the College which, if required, will also lay-out the sites of the individual tenants. Of the total building floor area of 100,000 sq. ft. (9,279 m²) for which planning approval has been given, 50,182 sq. ft. has so far been provided for the four companies now located there. To date the College has spent about £650,000 on the development of the site. In raising the capital required Trinity has sold some of its other property.

The College has been sufficiently encouraged by the response to the Park to have applied recently for outline planning permission to add a further 15 acres. It is thought that this second phase will be sufficient to meet the desired development needs for some years.

Applications for tenancies will be considered only if the premises are going to be used for scientific research associated with industrial production, or for light industrial production (of a kind which is dependent on regular consultation with either the tenant's own research development and design staff established in the Cambridge Study Area or the scientific staff of the university or of local scientific institutions) or for ancillary buildings appropriate to the use of the land as a science park (eg accommodation for metal workers, glass-blowers, electronics sub-contract experts on technical literature,

and the like). If it is required, companies can also be assisted with introductions to solicitors, patent agents, accountants, clearing banks, merchant banks, the National Research Development Corporation and Technical Development Capital.

The buildings are designed to be capable of quick erection and easy alteration. They are flexible in use, readily extensible and suitable for advanced technological activities, all at a reasonable cost.

Having spent much time and effort on university committees charged with the job of converting old university laboratories, designed like stately homes, Dr. Bradfield was determined that it should be very easy to gut virtually the whole of any Science Park building and give it a new interior, whenever circumstances so require.

Systemised approach to traditional building

After consideration of many proprietary types it was decided to adopt a systemised approach to traditional building. This allowed greater freedom of choice for the designers, owners and tenants, keener competitive pricing and a wider choice of materials when the latter are scarce (as when building began).

A planning grid of 600 m × 600 m was used for maximum flexibility and economy, although in the case of LKB Biochrom this was varied to 1,200 m × 1,200 m. The structural grid is a multiple of the planning grid and may be 7.2 m, 10.8 m, or 14.4 m.

Reasonable additional height in a steel-frame building is relatively cheap: therefore with the services accommodated in the depth of the lattice beams, a clear height of 4.6 m has been provided, which avoids any restriction of activities and allows a first floor when and wherever required. This upper floor is ideal for storage, plant rooms and other secondary areas; but can readily provide primary areas if desired.

The ground floor slab is designed to support a load of 20 kN/m² (416 lb/ft²). This permits the installation of a fair range of plant without special bases and will carry load bearing partitions.

All the claddings used provide good thermal insulation (U value 0.15), and although the structural frame imposes no restrictions it is proposed for aesthetic reasons to avoid a multiplicity of materials. Sufficient space is allowed around each building for future extension and landscaped areas in accordance with the Science Park concept.

The aim of Trinity College has been to provide premises suitable for research and development, of good appearance and economical finishes.

The buildings are normally built by the College and leased to tenants for 25 years with rent reviews every five years, though longer ground leases can be arranged for those wishing to build their own premises.

Primarily because at the outset Trinity had the site in hand – instead of having to buy expensively in the market – the College is able to quote competitive rents. For a building agreed 20 months or so ago, it was able to quote a rent of £1.60 per sq. ft. gross, and this is for a finished building (roughly ⅓ office, ⅓ laboratory and ⅓ manufacturing) with car park spaces, and includes the cost of all finishes and services (other than specialised services, such as those for compressed air, nitrogen, etc., supplies).

Currently, the College would probably be asking for a rent of about £2.20 a sq. ft. for such a building, which compares with about £1.20 for a basic shell factory (without finishes or services) in the Cambridge area, or about £3.20 a sq. ft. for a laboratory or office building. If only a very simple building were required, the rent would of course be lower. In addition, the tenant of the Cambridge Science Park has the benefit of a spacious landscaped setting and a close working relationship with the university. It is also the hope at some time in the future to provide, subject to the agreement of the tenants and the availability of the necessary capital, a Science Park centre building. Among the facilities this building could offer would be a common room, a seminar room (which could be used as temporary offices, audit room, visiting bank premises and for other purposes), technical facilities such as a computer terminal, large reprographic equipment with transmission ability and video telephone. Running expenses would have to be borne by the tenants

The four tenants

The four tenants at present occupying premises on the Cambridge Science Park are Laser-Scan Ltd., LKB Biochrom Ltd., Goodfellow Metals Ltd., and Cambridge Consultants (Training) Ltd.

Laser-Scan, the first tenant, is an excellent example of the type of company the Science Park was intended to attract, and the use to which it has put its premises is typical of the other firms. About 25 per cent of Laser-Scan's building is devoted to offices, laboratories take up about 30 per cent, and the remaining 45 per cent is given over to manufacturing activities. This company has very close relationships with the university, having been started by two members of the university staff – Dr. Graham Street and Dr. John Rushbrooke. Although Dr. Street now devotes all of his working time to the company, Dr. Rushbrooke continues to lecture in physics at the university.

As its name implies, Laser-Scan makes use of laser deflection technology in its products. The company was formed in 1969 to manufacture and market Sweepnik, which had been developed at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge where the founders of the company had been involved in its development. Sweepnik is a precision machine which, under the control of a mini computer, is programmed to follow lines and curves automatically at high speed. Light from a small helium-neon laser is used as a probe to digitise a film record of various forms of line drawing, such as charts, drawings and maps. The machine was originally developed to digitise tracks on hundreds of thousands of bubble chamber photographs, and has arisen from the work undertaken by the atomic scientist Professor O. R. Frisch, who used a laser beam to scan nuclear particles in a bubble chamber.

Laser-Scan has subsequently developed a laser display/plotter, which can be used either as a large screen display (100 × 70 cm.) for highly detailed line drawings with in-

Finance for technology

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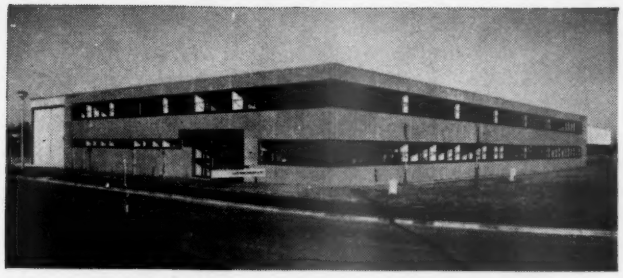
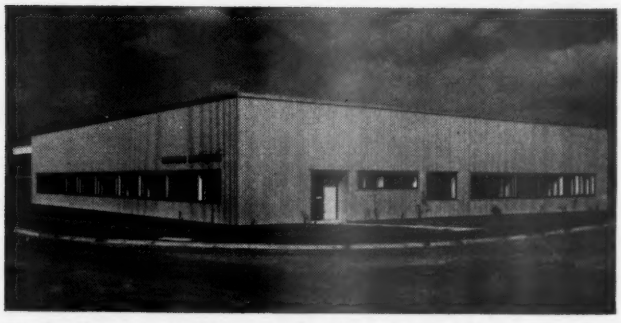
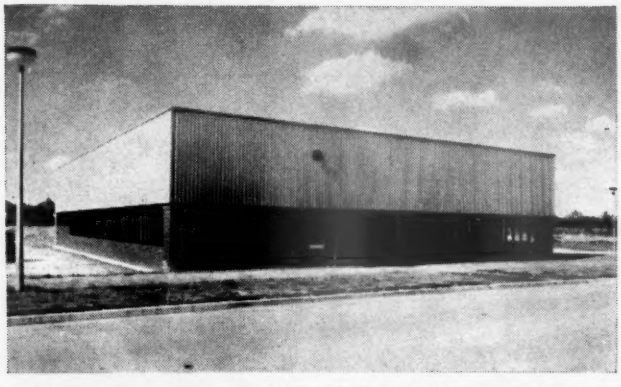


The largest of the buildings on the Science Park is that of LKB Biochrom.



The first tenant on the park was Laser-Scan Laboratories.



The illustrations accompanying this article show the variety of the buildings now established on the Science Park. This building is occupied by Goodfellow Metals.

definite viewing time and reusable film, or for plotting and altering line drawings with facility for capturing the finished drawing on film for possible further application in film viewers, low-cost enlarger/printers, high quality photographic enlargements and dyeline prints. In addition to marketing the HRD-1 laser display/plotter, the company also utilises one of the machines to provide a plotting and reprographic service bureau for computer-generated graphical output.

In its 10,000-sq. ft. building, Laser-Scan employs a total staff of 22, six of whom are scientists or engineers. The company has been successful in obtaining Government development contracts and has been financed with the help of Technical Development Capital.

The second firm to move into the Science Park was LKB Biochrom Ltd., which currently has a building of 25,000 sq. ft. but has space to expand to 40,000 sq. ft. The company, which is a subsidiary of the Swedish LKB Instruments international group, moved to the Park from St. Albans in September of last year. It currently employs 48 people (about 40 per cent of whom are scientists and engineers), but within two years expects to have a staff of about 100.

LKB manufactures various types of analysis instrumentation for medical and other laboratories, in particular for biochemistry and especially protein analysis. Although the British company is able to benefit from the research and development work undertaken at the group's headquarters and elsewhere within its international organisation, it also carries out a considerable amount of its own research and development work at Cambridge, resulting in British-designed instruments. About 90 per cent of LKB Biochrom's output goes to export.

The third company to move into the Science Park is Goodfellow Metals Ltd., a family-owned enterprise which took over its 9,000 sq. ft. building in January of this year. It has space on its present site to add a further 3,000 sq. ft. to the building. This company, which transferred to Cambridge from Claygate, near Esher, in Surrey, specialises in supplying fine metal foils, wires and tubes, as well as metal powders, for research and development purposes. A staff of more than 30 is employed by Goodfellow's, about a quarter of whom are scientists or engineers. Again, a large proportion of this company's products is sold abroad, with customers in more than 30 countries.

The latest arrival

In April of this year the latest and smallest of the firms settled on the Science Park – Cambridge Consultants (Training) Ltd. Occupying a 3,500 sq. ft. wholly-office building, and employing a staff of 12, this company engages in the production of specialised and complex technical literature, making use of flow diagrams, slide tapes and other modern aids. In addition to having a panel of consultants in various fields of activity, the company is also able to make use of other local expertise. Formed in 1965, the firm has been financed partly by the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation.

As previously indicated, the concept of a science park is comparatively new to Britain. There is a similar park to the one at Cambridge being established by the Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh; Lancaster University is developing a small park, and the Electrical Research Association also has an associated small industrial development.

In the United States the movement towards science parks began in the early 1950s, but the most rapid growth took place in the five years from 1961 to 1965 when 39 campuses were opened. The rate of expansion dropped markedly during the following five years, when only 10 new parks were added, and since 1970 it is believed that only a further four or five campuses have been established, to bring the current total up to at least 82 parks.

By comparison with the Cambridge Science Park, with its present 13½-acre area and projected total of 29½ acres, the campuses in the USA are very much larger, with an average size of about 633 acres, of which about 277 acres, or 44 per cent, is developed. The average number of companies on each campus is about 24, although the average number of firms drops to about 11 on those parks – believed to be 19 of the total – where the occupants are restricted only to research-related companies. On the other parks, where although emphasis is on research-related companies, other firms are allowed to take buildings, the average number of companies on each estate is about 28, of which 12 are research-related firms.

A recent estimate of the average number of employees on each of the US parks produced a figure of nearly 1,560, of whom 587 were scientists or engineers. There is a concentration of the parks in California, where 16 are located. Massachusetts has seven of the parks, while there are six in each of Colorado, Maryland and Virginia: the remainder are widely scattered.

Dr. Bradfield regrets that the Cambridge project had not started 20-30 years ago, at the same time as the movement had begun in the United States. As to the future, one possible development, provided there was sufficient interest, could be the provision of multiple-unit buildings, which could be shared by several small enterprising firms, each consisting of perhaps only three or four people.

BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

A good time to look at Tanzania

J. K. Chapman, First Secretary (Commercial), British High Commission, Dar-es-Salaam

The United Republic of Tanzania is a very big country with a land area of 343,038 sq. miles (including Zanzibar and Pemba some 22 miles off the mainland coast). The estimated population is about 14.5 million, of which the vast majority live in rural areas. Dar-es-Salaam, with a population of 500,000 is currently the seat of Government and is the main port, commercial and industrial city.

Tanzania is included in the UN classification of the world's 25 poorest countries. It experienced moderate economic expansion over the period 1970-73 with growth in real gross domestic product averaging some 5 per cent and after three years of balance of payments surpluses its foreign exchange reserves stood at 1,000 million T shillings (£61.4 million) at the end of 1973. In 1974, however, the economic performance and external position suffered reverses and reserves are thought to stand at some 200 million T shillings at present. Two principal factors contributing to this fall were the increased cost of oil and reduced agricultural production (in which drought was a major factor) necessitating the importation of some 1,000 million T shillings (say £61 million) of foodstuffs over the course of the year. Not, it might be thought, the right time for British companies to look at the market. But despite difficulties the UK has continued to be Tanzania's main trading partner as both supplier and purchaser. The only recent exception was in 1973 when the Chinese took over as main supplier – a result of a local costs agreement associated with the construction of the Tazara (or Tanzam) Railway. In 1974 UK goods to the value of £29.5 million were supplied to Tanzania (compared with £21.8 million in 1973 and £17.4 million in 1972). On the basis of figures currently available this rising trend is continuing into 1975: (UK exports to Tanzania from January to the end of May this year were worth £17.3 million). Yet our market share has declined and inroads have been made particularly by China, the USA, Japan and Germany. There is no doubt that the Tanzanian importer for historical and quality reasons likes to buy British.

In this article Tanzanian shillings have been converted into pounds sterling at the current rate of exchange in mid June ie 16.27½ T shillings = £1 sterling.

Foreword by H.E. The British High Commissioner to Tanzania

This article has been written by my Commercial Secretary with a view to interesting companies in taking an active interest in the Tanzanian market and to informing them about it. It would be wrong to give the impression that immediate prospects are good. Recently the National Executive Council decided to postpone the implementation of the Third Five-Year Development Plan until 1976/77 'if the country's economic situation improves'. Prosperity, as such, may be a long time in coming but I believe that in the relatively near future there are prospects of doing increasingly useful business here. British goods and services are favoured and with a rising tide of good relations between our two Governments it is an opportune time for companies to take an interest in selling to Tanzania.

MERVYN BROWN
CMG., OBE

Unfortunately Tanzania is not generally regarded by UK companies as justifying priority treatment and this is sometimes evidenced by lack of interest and delay in supply. I hope that what follows will go some way towards increasing the attention given to Tanzania and convince UK firms that now is an appropriate time for new or renewed interest.

Agricultural economy

Tanzania is a young, underdeveloped country with an agricultural economy. Any failure in the agricultural sector is therefore crucial. 1974 was a bad year. A number of factors contributed to this, but many of them have been put right or are in process of being so. In particular the rains have been good and food production will be up. The Government's policy of moving the scattered peasant communities into new villages with corporate services, etc., a policy which reached its climax in 1974, has caused some temporary loss of production; in return it is hoped that greater benefits will accrue in the longer term. Fewer will move in 1975 and the millions moved in 1974 will be settling in.

Although the food import bill for 1975 may well be drastically reduced it is likely that there will be some fall in the production of cash crops (partially due to the increased attention paid to food production) and this, coupled with generally lower world prices for commodities, will mean that Tanzania's balance of payments performance is likely to be only marginally better than in 1974. But there are well formulated plans both generally, and in particular for commodities such as tea and tobacco, aimed at improving production levels. In this aid funds will often be available to meet offshore costs and local costs.

The problem of oil price rises has been tackled in part by

the banning of driving on Sunday afternoons and the closure of garages at weekends. Aid has been provided by the Arab League and by Kuwait bilaterally. In the longer term some oil money will flow back to the developing countries, albeit belatedly and somewhat expensively, through the contributions of the oil producers to the World Bank and the IMF Oil Facility.

The ever increasing gap between rich and poor will only be diminished in a reasonable period by industrialisation and although food production (including fisheries development, grain storage and seed multiplication projects) will be a top priority, Tanzania's plans for exploiting and processing its raw materials will be a major part of the third Five Year Plan which is scheduled to come into effect in 1976/77 (it was originally to come into effect in July 1975 but was postponed because of the currently unfavourable economic climate – in the interim Annual Plans will be implemented as usual). It may be decided to convert the Five Year Plan into a series of one year plans. The budgetary allocation of the plan is as follows:

	Approximately million T shillings
Industrial and mining sector	3,522 (£216 million)
Agriculture	2,240 (£138 million)
Construction of road, houses and other development activities at Dodoma	1,500 (£92 million)
Transport and communications	1,400 (£86 million)
Water	976 (£60 million)
Education	838 (£52 million)
Iron in Chunya (SW)	525 (£32 million)
Power	507 (£31 million)
Health	429 (£26 million)
Natural resources and tourism	450 (£28 million)
Housing	250 (£15 million)
Prime Minister's Office	200 (£12 million)
Other projects	1,052 (£65 million)
Total	13,889 (£853 million)

The projects include expansion of sugar facilities at Kagera, Mtibwa and Kilombero II, together with sisal, cotton, leather (including footwear) and cashew nut processing plants. In addition there will be development of the cement manufacturing and metal based industries (including the expansion of Aluminium Africa and a bicycle factory), expansion of the fertiliser, wood products and textile industries and development of a paper and pulp mill. In the longer term heavy industrial projects associated with coal and iron and hydro-electricity are planned for development. Britain's strength in the supply of goods to Tanzania has, traditionally been in the fields of medical and pharmaceutical products, machinery and transport equipment as well as invisibles. There is clearly room for improvement of market shares on these and other fronts.

The principal project of interest is, in many respects, the development over the next 10 years of the new capital at Dodoma, which will provide opportunities of many kinds for the UK. Already the Prime Minister's Office is established there and work is proceeding apace on the provision of housing.

An adviser to the Capital Development Authority describes the layout of Dodama to President Nyerere.

Massey Ferguson tractor in operation in Tanzania

Opportunities of all sorts

Opportunities of all sorts including investment, the sale of plant and equipment and the requirement for professional expertise will be provided by the 620 megawatt hydro-electric scheme now planned for the Rufiji Basin. This follows the hydro scheme at Kidatu which is now providing 100 megawatts of power (with consequent reduction in the oil bill), and will provide a further 100 by 1979.

Other projects which will provide opportunities are, for example, the new terminal to be built at Dar-es-Salaam Airport, the tourism development in Zanzibar (probably involving hotel(s), transport and a conference centre), dairy development (including farms and processing facilities) and livestock projects, completion of the New Africa Hotel in Dar, the Ten Bridges project and various road construction and survey projects. In addition there are regular tendering opportunities in the fields of small scale industries, chemicals and water development. (It is Government policy to provide water to a further 12.5 million Tanzanians by 1980.)

Tanzania's principal agricultural export commodities are cotton, coffee, sisal, cashew nuts, tea and tobacco. In addition to the provision of aid funds, the recently signed Lomé Convention gives preferential duty free access to the EEC for Tanzanian products and this, coupled with its commodity earnings stabilisation schemes and possible commodity agreements of the sort recently proposed by Mr. Wilson in Jamaica, should in the long term benefit Tanzania's export earnings.

Apart from the vast agricultural potential which should, in due course, enable Tanzania to be fully self-sufficient in food and to export some surplus, there are other potentially exploitable resources. Although they are unlikely by themselves to be an economic salvation there are minerals in plenty. For example China and Germany are considering exploitation of the coal and iron ore in the SW previously mentioned, Russia is helping to process cement, Japan is looking at the possibilities for soda ash extraction from Lake Natron and an Italian company is prospecting for oil; a small pocket of gas was recently found offshore. The UK, it will be noted, plays no part in these new projects.

Changes in Southern Africa make the effect of the opening of the Tazara Railway, now nearing completion, difficult to assess. It is intended, however, amongst other things, to open up the agriculturally rich SW area to development and, through a link-line, service the coal and iron deposits.

The industrial sector is growing and seems likely to grow more rapidly but for the present remains small. Five basic consumer goods industries – foods, beverages, tobacco, textiles and clothing and footwear represent the bulk. The rest consists of chemicals and chemical products, paper, printing and publishing and vehicle assembly, etc.

In addition to the aid from the Arab and multilateral sources referred to above aid to Tanzania flows generously from other nations. As the beginning of a new aid programme the UK has offered some £10 million of project aid and £2½ million of programme aid (in addition to £1 million of technical assistance) which remains to be allocated to products and projects. The Federal German Republic, the USA, the Scandinavian countries, the EEC and the Canadians amongst many others provide food and capital aid and technical expertise generously. Despite the substantial inflows, however, the debt service ratio remains low.

Major opportunities in the development field

It is in the development field that the major opportunities for UK suppliers lie. This means, for example, that there is a need for engineering and agricultural expertise, for transport, irrigation systems, generators, agricultural machinery and tractors, chemicals, processing plant and construction and mechanical handling equipment. But there is a particular need for tools of intermediate technology suited to low cost labour intensive conditions of production. The need is for simple machinery and implements which are rugged and easily repairable. The Intermediate Technology Development Group at Parnell House, 25 Wilton Road, London SW1V 1JS (tel. 01-828 5791) is available to offer general advice to firms on this aspect of servicing the Tanzanian market.

The Arusha Declaration, which is the basis of Tanzania's social, political and economic development, provides that the State should intervene actively in the economic life of the Nation. This has meant, amongst other things, that the importation of goods is increasingly in the hands of nationalised companies or parastatals. In particular there are six importing companies which have arisen out of the ashes of the now defunct State Trading Corporation. They have virtual monopoly in the importation of agricultural and industrial supplies, building, hardware, and sanitary equipment, domestic appliances and bicycles, pharmaceuticals, household supplies and foodstuffs. Other products which augment local production are reserved to the corporations controlling indigenous production. There is a tight and effective import licensing scheme which allocates specific amounts of foreign exchange to specific imports. Import licence applications for an increasing number of items must originate from the appropriate parastatal or be endorsed by it.

The parastatals are not themselves prepared to enter into agency agreements with overseas manufacturers on an exclusive basis and even where goods are not monopolised there are considerable difficulties in finding good agents, particularly where this includes stock holding. Companies intending to trade with Tanzania should discuss the question of representation with Export Services and Promotion Division of the Department of Trade. As a general rule it is advisable for companies to have representatives within Tanzania rather than cover the market from Kenya.

While the business language is still mainly English there is an increasing trend towards the use of Kiswahili and companies would find it much appreciated if their literature was available in this language.

Import procedure

With the exception of Zanzibar imports, goods imported by East African Community organisations, Government procurement through international tender, goods imported through Crown Agents, a few specific goods and goods from some specified countries, all imports with an invoice value exceeding 20,000 T shillings (£1,229) are subject before shipment to pre-shipment inspection for quality and quantity and price comparison by the General Superintendence Co. Ltd. Costs of unpacking, repacking, handling, etc., are borne by the exporter but the importer is required to pay a fee of 1 per cent of the fob value of the goods.

Payment terms authorised by the Bank of Tanzania are generally at least 90 days sight draft or by Irrevocable Letter of Credit claused to the effect that remittance cannot be made until the goods have arrived in Tanzania and a clean 'report of findings', from the General Superintendence Co. has been submitted to the Bank by the customs authorities. Exceptions are made only for purchases from aid funds, goods purchased by international tender, Government purchases where specially authorised by the Prime Minister's Office and in those cases where the exporter is in a position to insist on other terms, eg for vital spare parts which are unobtainable from any other source. For ad hoc large scale business the terms are variable and more flexible.

Consumer goods are imported sparingly into the mainland of Tanzania. Latterly these have been supplied to some extent under the terms of a local costs agreement with China. This has now effectively ceased and gaps are left to be filled. Unfortunately the constraint is now one of foreign exchange and, generally, until that situation improves the market for consumer goods can only be surveyed rather than serviced.

The situation is different on Zanzibar and trade is freer. The island, which has a population of some 360,000 has foreign exchange reserves which are absolutely and relatively higher than those of the mainland. This is due mainly to earnings from the clove industry. The crop has suffered from disease recently but remains the foundation of Zanzibar's prosperity.

There is in Zanzibar a market, albeit small, for consumer (though generally not luxury) items through Bizanje the State Trading Organisation, PO Box 26, Zanzibar. The requirement for capital goods is similar to that of the mainland. They are purchased through the Halmashauri ya Uagiziaji Zana na Majenzi Wizara ya Kazi (the Importation Com-

mittee of the Ministry of Works) at SLP 266, Zanzibar, and other bodies. The vast bulk of Zanzibar's imports has traditionally come from the UK and much of that through the Crown Agents, but now, in attempts to diversify away from dependence on cloves, Zanzibaris are receiving aid from China in connection with sugar and cigarette factories, by India on small scale industries and by Italy on other production plants. The Japanese appear to be active too and are in the running for an order for generators which would normally have gone to the UK and they are also building two funfairs. To the regret of the Zanzibaris, UK interest in the island appears to be diminishing.

The Arusha Declaration 1967, a major statement of policy and guiding light of the Tanzanian Government, specifically recognises the need for foreign investment and companies investing here are provided with all the necessary guarantees. However, the force majeure of the foreign exchange situation has meant that dividends are not at present being remitted. There is, however, no reason to doubt that once the situation improves repatriation will again be allowed. Even in present conditions some companies still find investment attractive in order to secure a source of raw materials. It is open to them to enter into a joint venture with a parastatal for a predetermined period after which the latter would take over all the equity. We are currently being asked to search for partners in agricultural projects.

To conclude, Tanzania is a young, large underdeveloped country with much goodwill towards the UK. It is politically stable and relations between our two countries have improved daily and to the extent that the President of Tanzania will pay a State Visit to the UK in November. The UK is the major trading partner in both directions (with the balance in Tanzania's favour), and an aid donor. There remains considerable British commercial investment. Whilst Tanzania is an extremely poor country her problems are shared by most of the third world and are not insoluble. Her financial management and morality are sound and the way ahead can be seen. The World Bank has recently confirmed its confidence in the country's economic and development policies. We believe that attention to the market now will bring few immediate sales but that tangible rewards would appear in 2-3 years and that the long term prospects are bright. This was the impression taken away by a Birmingham Chamber of Commerce mission which recently visited Tanzania. A further British Overseas Trade Board supported mission is due to visit Tanzania in November under the sponsorship of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industries. Companies wishing to participate should contact John Muir at 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB (tel. 01-248 4444) as soon as possible.

The Commercial Section of the British High Commission will be pleased to help British companies in whatever way it can. We believe that this is a market where we shall have everything going for us providing we turn attention to it now.

British trade can grow with the country and there will be numerous opportunities for developmental trade to the mutual benefit of both.

It is a good time to look at Tanzania.

BOTB News

British Overseas Trade Advisory Council holds its first meeting

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, presided over the first meeting of the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council on 26 June. His opening statement was followed by one from Sir Frederick Catherwood, Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board which has executive responsibility for the Government services concerned with trade promotion and commercial intelligence.

In a wide-ranging discussion, members of the Council considered a proposal for major conferences in industrial centres outside London to stimulate concern for exports; and also a report by the British Export Trade Research Organisation about the importance of concentration on key markets abroad.

The new Council is made up of the members of the BOTB and the chairman of its 16 geographical Area Advisory Groups, representatives of other trade organisations, and additional members nominated by the Confederation of British Industry, the Trades Union Congress, and the Association of British Chambers of Commerce. It will offer advice about the operation and development of the Board's services; communicate between the Board and firms; and suggest specific measures to improve Britain's export performance.

Mr Shore's speech

In his opening statement, Mr. Shore said that Britain has made a major improvement in her overseas trade this year, but warned that inflation could kill the chances of export-led growth. 'More than that, we could price ourselves out of world markets, with disastrous consequences for jobs and the well-being of this country' he said.

Mr. Shore continued:

'Advice is defined as "opinion given as to action". This Council will be judged by the action it provokes to maximise exports of goods and services. There is no objective that is more urgent in Britain today. To the extent that we succeed we shall change history – because there is no question that greater success in exporting is absolutely fundamental to the future of our country and all its people.

'Besides giving forthright advice on our export services and export strategy I hope very much that this Council will amplify the need for greater priority to exporting to all their colleagues and friends in industry and commerce.

Commenting on our overseas accounts, Mr. Shore said:

'We have three immmediate tasks. We must maintain and improve our position in our traditional export markets. We must seize the present and the growing opportunities in the OPEC markets. And we must prepare for this substantial revival in world trade.

'By far the greatest turn-round has been in our trade with the oil exporting countries where during the five months ending in May our exports covered nearly two thirds of imports – the result of a fall in oil imports and a rise in the value of exports compared with a year earlier of more than 120 per cent. In January to May last year our exports to these countries covered less than a quarter of our imports. I am sure you will agree that this export explosion reflects great credit on our salesmen in the oil producing countries and all those who back them up at home.

'Very much the weakest spot is still in our

trade with the rest of the European Community. Now that passions are cooling perhaps I can repeat the point that the Community accounts for a very high proportion of our crude trade deficit; and that we must redress the balance through a much stronger effort in these markets.

'All in all 1975 should be very much better for the balance of payments – as indeed it must. This year we have good prospects of earning a substantial surplus on our non-oil trade, and getting a substantial reduction on our deficit overall. That does not mean that we can afford in any way to relax our efforts. For the recent trade figures also reveal serious warnings which we must heed.

'For one thing, in the three months to May the volume of exports fell by 2 per cent – the increase in value thus being entirely due to price increases. Admittedly, the volume of imports also fell, by 6½ per cent. This included, however, a sharp fall in the volume of the imports of the industrial materials and fuels on which our economy depends.

'Clearly we cannot go on increasing the value of exports simply by putting up prices. Our customers have no wish to import inflation from us. And in contrast to our position during the commodity price boom, they have the obvious remedy of buying from alternative sources.

'Since the autumn of last year our record on inflation has deteriorated substantially against our major competitors. Before that, steep though the escalation of costs and prices was here, at least we were not very much out of line with industrial countries generally.

'The fact is that while our inflation has tended to accelerate in recent months, these other countries have been moving in the reverse direction. The result is that we are running a rate of inflation two to three times higher than our competitors.

'This is a situation which we just cannot allow to continue. If we did we would kill our chances of export-led growth stone dead. More than that we would price ourselves out of world markets with disastrous consequences for jobs and well-being in this country.

'The second warning in the recent trade figures concerns our capacity to produce more goods for export. Naturally in a period of economic downturn one would expect heavy destocking to be reflected in falling imports of industrial materials.

'However, when this destocking goes hand in hand with a substantial fall in industrial investment there is the obvious danger when world trade expands again we will find ourselves shackled by the shortages of materials, components and productive capacity which stop us from fully exploiting the demand for our exports.

'To avoid this we must take action on two fronts in particular. We must act to make the most of existing industrial capacity. The fact is that we have unused capacity in our economy today which could increase productivity very quickly without waiting for increased investment.

'But we must also be willing to spend a much greater proportion of our national wealth on investment to renew and increase industrial capacity.

'Of course, the Government recognises that companies have difficulties – particularly in terms of liquidity and cash flow – in respect to investment. But I hope that it will be recognised that the Government has done as much as possible – given other constraints – in recent Budgets to improve the financial position of industry, particularly through the stock appreciation scheme. The total transfers from Government to industry as a result of the stock relief scheme will be about £3.8 billion, of which about £1.3 billion will be available in this financial year.

'What we need in our economy essentially can be expressed in a single phrase – "export-commitment". A phrase, nevertheless, with the widest implications.

'Ours is an export-dominated economy, but I don't think this face sufficiently dominates our approach to the ordering of our affairs.

The British Overseas Trade Advisory Council at its first meeting

British Overseas Trade Advisory Council

Terms of Reference

The Council (which will be called the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council):

1 Will be kept fully informed of the work of the BOTB against the background of Britain's overall trading performance.

2 Shall offer advice and comments on the operation and development of the Board's services to industry.

3 Will act as a two-way channel of communication between the Board and industry and commerce with a view to making known the work and services of the Board and reporting back the views of industry and commerce.

4 May suggest for consideration by the Board any specific measures which might in the Council's view improve Britain's overseas trading performance.

5 Advise the Board on specific questions which it may be asked to consider.

Peter Shore (right), Secretary of State for Trade and Sir Frederick Catherwood, Chairman of the BOTB addressing the Advisory Council

We are not export-committed to the same degree as some of our major competitors.

'Take one example from the BETRO study which the Council is to discuss shortly. It reports that, despite the fact that half the firms interviewed found exports more profitable than selling in this country, on the whole they put a much *lower* ratio of salesmen into export markets than into the home market.

'I quote this not as a criticism, but as an indication of what we could achieve if we committed more of our resources, more of our efforts – in every area, every sector of our industrial society – to exporting.

Government help

'On the Government's side we must see the help we give to exporters is as efficient and cost effective as possible. We must listen to what you have to say to us. And we must react effectively when the occasion demands.

'Early this year it became clear that in the fast-expanding markets of the Middle East we were losing out in particular in large-scale capital orders. And we were losing out in some cases because British exporters did not enjoy some of the facilities available to their competitors.

'It is my firm intention that ECGD facilities overall should match those available to our exporters in other countries. Hence our development of new facilities for cost escalation and performance bonds, and the talks on pre-shipment finance which are now taking place with the banks.

'I made it clear some days ago that the performance bond scheme in its original form has been in considerable demand. But the needs of exporters trying to raise bonds below £20 million has been made very clear to me. I was glad to announce last Friday an extension of ECGD's guarantee scheme to projects down to £2 million. The cost escalation scheme has been attacked from opposite directions. It has been suggested that the scheme is too restrictive to be of use.

'Exporters' demand for the scheme refute that suggestion. Some 90 applications for the scheme have been received worth over £2 billion. Thirty of these worth some £900 million have already been approved in principle.

'Finally, this Council has been set up to make sure that communication between industry, commerce and Government on all matters concerning exports is as good as it should be. With Sir Frederick Catherwood I shall give you all the support that I possibly can.

'I believe that our export promotion services compare well with those of any other country. They are very wide in their range and they have benefitted substantially from the direction given by the BOTB. Now with your guidance I am sure we shall find further improvements in the cause of visible and invisible exports.

'This Council combines exceptional breadth and depth of export experience. I am sure you will not stint your ideas however radical they may be. I hope very much that together we can make a very definite contribution to both the strategy and detail of Britain's export effort.

'The initiatives of the past few months, from support for jumbo projects to cost escalation guarantees, were the produce of careful listening to exporters, and the BOTB was a major force in their conception. We need your advice so that we can shape the export services and policy more effectively to support the still greater commitment to exporting that Britain must develop in the future.'

Sir Frederick Catherwood's speech

Mr. Shore was followed by Sir Frederick Catherwood, who said: 'I am a very firm believer in a brisk and frank two-way traffic in information and ideas between Government and industry and this needs not only a smaller group, such as the Board, who can give detailed time and attention to the discussion, but also a very much wider and more representative body which makes quite sure that everyone's feet are on the ground. Some people think that the organisation of this kind of machinery is a waste of time. If it is badly organised it *is* a waste of time, but if it is properly organised it can make all the difference in the world. And above all the relationship of Government and industry has to be organised so that each pays a proper respect to the views of the other. We may disagree with conclusions, or shy away from awkward recommendations. But we owe it to each other to take really seriously what the other party takes really seriously and to listen to what we may wish we didn't have to hear.

'This Council will be of great help to the BOTB, not just for the three or four meetings a year, but especially for the informal contact that it gives us. I hope very much that we can call on the help and advice of everyone here informally as well as formally. The broader the base on which we can consult, the more balanced and the more powerful our view is likely to be.

'At present I think industry is looking to Government not so much for marginal improvements to aids to export, but for the economic stability without which no business can plan for anything. It is no part of our remit here to produce ideas for the July package which we are now promised. But, as the Secretary of State has said, inflation is particularly damaging to exports and therefore has disastrous consequences for jobs and the wellbeing of the country. So the reduction of the rate of inflation to the kind of level suggested by the Chancellor which would restore our competitive position is the key Government contribution to our export effort – and no one but Government, however much they consult (as they should) can give the lead needed to reduce 25 per cent inflation to 10 per cent inflation. This is the kind of advice the Board have been giving to the Secretary of State and I have no doubt he has passed it on to his colleagues.

'On the assumption that the July measures will be adequate and that we will retain our competitive edge in export markets, we have to consider what is the best contribution industry can make to boost our export volume to the level needed to maintain employment and restore our economic prosperity. I do not put much faith in exhortation. I think that any export-promotion effort has to be fairly hard-headed. In my own experience the only

way to lasting improvement is the long hard grind of raising the average to the level of the best by discussion and promoting the best and most succesful practices. For this reason the Board are suggesting that we mount a series of regional meetings over the next 18 months in which exporters can discuss the different methods by which they have achieved success. We hope to use these meetings to make each major industrial centre more conscious of the successful exporters in their midst and more conscious at all levels of the extent to which this country depends for its living on what we sell overseas; for we really have to widen the commitment to export from those immediately involved, to the Chairman on the one hand and the shop floor on the other, and I hope we can have a good representation from the shop floor at these meetings. If you agree to the proposal we will bend every effort to make the meetings a success. I hope that out of these meetings will come a general body of knowledge about exports which will prove of help to exporters more generally. I think that a body with the resources of the Board ought to spend some of those resources in acquiring and passing on the knowledge of best practice, which is far more help to exporters than mere exhortation.

'Finally, I agree with the Secretary of State about the importance of the trade gap with the other eight members of the European Community. Now we have the secure tariff-free market and a competitive currency, it is up to us to get the orders and to make sure that we have the capacity to match.'

Membership of the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council

Rt. Hon. Peter Shore, MP (Chairman)
Secretary of State for Trade
President – BOTB
Sir Frederick Catherwood
Chairman – BOTB
R. I. H. Baker
Chairman, West India Committee
R. C. Booth, CBE, TD, LLB
Director, Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Lord Briginshaw
BOTB member
E. C. Brookes
Singlehurst Hydraulics Ltd.
Member, Export Promotion Panel, CBI
E. A. Brown
Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers
H. J. C. Browne
John Swire and Sons Ltd.
Chairman, Hong Kong Trade Advisory Group
J. W. Buckley
Davy International Ltd.
BOTB member
R. H. W. Bullock, CB
Deputy Secretary
Department of Industry
BOTB member
G. V. K. Burton, CBE
Fisons Ltd.
Chairman, Overseas Committee, CBI
Dr. G. Chambers
Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce
W. M. Clarke
Director, Committee on Invisible Exports
Lord Clydesmuir, KT, CB, MBE, TD
President and Chairman of Executive Scottish Council Development and Industry
J. N. Cooper, OBE
Shell International Ltd.
Vice-President, London Chamber of Commerce
A. J. Day, MIEX
Director General, Institute of Export
Lord Denman
Chairman, Committee for Middle East Trade
G. R. Denman, CB CMG
Deputy Secretary
Department of Trade
BOTB member
T. R. Earnshaw
TBA Industrial Products Ltd.
Manchester Chamber of Commerce
D. B. Ercolani
Ercol Ltd.
Member, Export Promotion Panel, CBI
Sir Derek Ezra
BOTB member
P. J. Ford, CBE
British Shippers Council
G. A. Hannah
Chairman, Tropical Africa Advisory Group
J. Harper
Union of Construction and Allied Trades Technicians
Lord Kearton
Courtaulds Ltd.
Chairman, East European Trade Council
HRH The Duke of Kent, GCMG GCVO
BOTB member
Sir Cyril Kleinwort
Kleinwort Benson Lonsdale Ltd.
BOTB member
Sir Jan Lewando
Carrington Viyella Ltd.
BOTB member
Lord Limerick
Association of British Chambers of Commerce
BOTB member
W. E. Luke
Lindustries Ltd.
Chairman, United Kingdom South Africa Trade Association
British Overseas Trade Advisory Council 2
R. D. C. McAlpine, CMG
Baring Brothers and Co. Ltd.
Chairman, Economic Affairs Committee of Canning House
Sir Ronald McIntosh, KCB
Director General, National Economic Development Office
Sir Donald Maitland, CMG, OBE
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
BOTB member
B. Mathers
Transport and General Workers Union
Sir Peter Matthews
Vickers Ltd.
BOTB member
M. Neil
Director, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
J. Hugh Neill, CBE, TD
James Neill Holdings Ltd.
BOTB member
Lord Nelson
GEC Ltd.
President of the 'Executive Council', Sino-British Trade Council
G. C. Nichols, OBE, DFC
Rotaprint Ltd.
Chairman, Japan Trade Advisory Group
Sir Michael Parsons
Inchape and Co. Ltd.
Chairman of the General Committee and President, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh Association
Sir Richard Powell, GCB, KBE, CMG
President, British Export Houses Association
P. S. Preston, CB, idc
Deputy Secretary
Department of Trade
BOTB member
Rt. Hon. Lord Redmayne
John Barker and Co. Ltd.
Chairman, North American Advisory Group
J. S. Rooke, CMG, OBE
Chief Executive, BOTB
BOTB member
W. R. Russell
Chairman, Australia and New Zealand Trade Advisory Committee
B. F. W. Scott, CBE, TD
Joseph Lucas (Industries) Ltd.
BOTB member
Hon. M. D. Sieff, CBE
Marks and Spencer Ltd.
Chairman, British Overseas Trade Group for Israel
J. Seiger, OBE
J. and S. Seiger Ltd.
Chairman, Wessex Export Club
Lord Shackleton, OBE
Rio-Tinto Zinc Corporation Ltd.
BOTB member
C. F. Small, MBE
Tucker Products Ltd.
Vice-President, Cardiff Incorporated Chamber of Commerce
K. Taylor, CB
Export Credits Guarantee Department
BOTB member
A. E. Wernly, OBE
British Insulated Callender's Cables
Member, Export Promotion Panel, CBI
J. Whitehorn, CMG
Confederation of British Industry
BOTB member
J. Wilson, CBE
The Standard and Chartered Banking Group Ltd.
Chairman, South East Asia Area Advisory Group

Name and address with cable

British firms cabling an overseas organisation for the first time should ensure that they include their name and full postal address. There is no comprehensive directory of cable addresses, and commercial departments in British embassies are often unable to help local firms who ask them to trace British firms from their cable address.

St Michael®

Marks & Spencer

Some key points from the Chairman's Statement:

Sir Marcus Sieff
Chairman

The British economy is faced with three major problems: an unacceptably high rate of inflation, a massive deficit of the balance of payments and industrial unrest which, through strikes and 'go slows', affects both total production and productivity.

There is too much talk about redistributing wealth and too little about creating it. Additional wealth, fairly distributed, could make an important contribution to everyone's standard of living. A redistribution of diminishing wealth could both impoverish us and destroy our way of life, the good with the bad.

I wonder whether some Ministers dealing with industry genuinely believe in – or understand – the value of a mixed economy, with a free and competitive sector which helps to keep prices down. They seem to want more and more of the economy controlled and regulated from the centre, often replacing efficient and involved management by a management which is bureaucratic, remote and frequently inexperienced. The objective should be to improve the management performance of both sectors of the mixed economy.

During the year our policy was to make a contribution, however modest, to fighting inflation, reducing the balance of payments deficit by increasing exports, and improving our already good human relations with all those with whom we come into contact.

We achieved the following results:–

- Our sales increased by **£150 million** to **£721 million** net of V.A.T. and include **£21 million** exports.
- In co-operation with our suppliers, we limited price increases and introduced lower prices on a number of St Michael lines. We refused to compromise on quality.
- We opened stores in Paris and Brussels. We shall develop additional Marks & Spencer stores in Canada.
- **95%** of the **£492 million** textiles we sold were made in Britain.
- Our food sales have reached **£208 million.**
- We opened **330,000 sq ft** of selling space at home and abroad.
- We reduced our energy consumption by over **15%**.
- We increased profits by £5 million to over **£81 million,** leaving after tax **£39 million** for distribution and investment.

We thank all our staff for their contribution to the progress of the business through greater productivity with lower staff turnover and absenteeism. They know we have confidence in them, respect them and are determined that they share in the progress and prospertity of the business as reflected in pay increases and improved benefits. **This is a real social contract.**

Such success as we have had is due to the effort and dedication of those who work for us and with us within a free enterprise sector of a mixed economy.

We thank our suppliers for their co-operation and efforts. We work closely with them to improve productivity, human relations and the working environment.

We aim to interpret the needs of our public and to protect our customers. Providing them with high quality, good value and helpful service depends on teamwork and personal involvement. This cannot be achieved by decree or the extension of state control.

Exhibitions and Fairs

Timber trade fair in Hanover well-supported

The stand of Stenners of Tiverton at LIGNA '75.

From R. A. Staples, British Consulate-General, Hanover: The first International Trade Fair for Machinery and Equipment for the Woodworking Industries – LIGNA '75 – was staged at the Hanover exhibition grounds from 28 May until 3 June.

A combined participation of 18 British companies exhibited jointly under the direction of the British Overseas Trade Board and sponsored by the Machine Tool Trades Association. LIGNA '75 is a new event and is designed to cover the whole of the timber trade's capital investment requirements as a specialist exhibition, separate for the first time in 25 years from the major Hanover industrial fair. Canada was the only country to display a national stand, although, under the aegis of French and Italian counterparts to MTTA and the European Committee for Woodworking Machinery Manufacturers, other joint venture groups were in evidence.

British exhibitors expressed extreme satisfaction with the numbers and quality of trade visitors and were unanimous in their praise of Government support without which, according to most of them, participation and particularly the follow-up to potential business abroad resulting out of exhibition activity would be problematical.

Many British participants confirmed orders taken either for machinery displayed – in some cases all machinery was sold on the spot – or for products not displayed. Generally, the emphasis lay on interest from potential buyers from emerging countries with whom many firms had long-standing connections. Others saw LIGNA '75 as an instrument in international marketing, as an opportunity to extend their knowledge of their competitors' strategy and as a barometer of investment trends and technical development in the woodworking fields.

From the comments of the British contingent, it would appear that this first venture of its kind was, for them at least, an all-round success and most have confirmed their participation at any future LIGNA.

It is planned provisionally to hold the next LIGNA in Hanover on 15-21 June 1977.

Super snacks at supermarket show in Dallas Convention Center

From D. H. Cooper, British Consulate, Dallas, Texas: Government sponsored exhibits from France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, the Republic of Ireland, and Canada, together with those from Britain, imparted a distinctively increased foreign flavour to the 38th Annual Convention (and exhibition) of the (American) Supermarket Institute (SMI), from 4 to 7 May.

By the time the doors of the Dallas Convention Center were finally closed some 12,500 supermarket operators and executives, food buyers and distributors, had attended a full programme of lectures and workshop discussion panels and had toured the stands of some 600 plus exhibitors.

This was the third year in succession in which a British joint venture, sponsored jointly by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Food Export Council, had been organised. This year's British group consisted of seven companies, each of whom added their own special seasoning to what was the largest foreign group exhibit on an island site of 1,900 sq. ft. Returning members from last year were: Twinings, Columbus Dixon and Glynwed Integrated Services. Impressive 'newcomers' to the British contingent were H. P. Bulmer Ltd., Hammonds Sauce Co. Ltd., Maconochies of Fraserburgh, and Marks and Spencer Ltd. British companies outside the joint venture, exhibiting through their US subsidiaries, were Cadbury-Schweppes, Yardley and Associated Biscuits.

In addition to their usual information booth, the British Food Export Council had this year organised tasting kiosks on either side of the group stand at which hostesses in distinctive smocks and Union Jack scarves dispensed tea and cider along with a variety of the exhibitors' goodies. The plan was to induce visitors to stop, to taste and to linger on the British stand, and was very successful. Appreciated by all, it was in particular a home from home for the official visitors, including the Consulate staff and Mr. Richard Palmer of Associated Biscuits, the incoming Chairman of the British Food Export Council.

The promise of this year's British exhibit was thus amply fulfilled, and the satisfaction expressed by the individual British companies emphasises the importance of this show for those food and non-food companies who have the capacity and the will to break into the mammoth supermarket market in the USA. Ian Harrison, Director General of the British Food Export Council (tel. 01-480 6594) will be delighted to hear from companies interested in exhibiting in 1976.

DOE minister in Tehran

Ernest Armstrong, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment, visited Tehran from 20-25 June to attend the Tehran International Building and Equipment Fair, 'Construction '75', and take part in discussions with Iranian Government Ministers.

British Ambassador, Sir Fred Warner, presents a Vallot Ricksack to Mrs. Junk Tabei, the first woman to conquer Everest, during the British Sporting, Camping and Leisure Goods Exhibition at the British Marketing Export Centre in Tokyo. The show which ran from 17-21 June, was organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Camping Trade Association of Great Britain Ltd. and attracted a total of 17 British exhibitors.

Flying start for British orders at Paris air show

From Clive Almond, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Paris: Shortly after the start of the International Aeronautics and Space Exhibition, which ran in Paris from 29 May to 8 June, British aerospace companies announced that they had won overseas orders worth more than £6 million.

The total British exhibit consisted of 90 companies and 55 of these took part on the official joint venture stands which were jointly sponsored by the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC) and the British Overseas Trade Board.

Despite the current difficulties being experienced by many of the world's civil and military aerospace companies, this year's exhibition attracted almost the usual number of exhibitors and aircraft on display.

The real business which was of particular importance to British companies took place, not in the glamorous aircraft park, where novelties were few, but in the private chalets and on the individual firms' stands in the exhibition halls. Here a great deal of attention was being paid to the question of how firms could co-ordinate their work and pool their resources with their French and other European counterparts.

The main accent of Le Bourget this year, among the larger aircraft manufacturers, was on improving existing designs rather than launching new projects. On the British stands, in particular, it was encouraging to see the enthusiasm with which the avionics firms were approaching the future, despite the strong American and European competition and the current uncertainties about the future of their industry in the UK.

On the British stands, the confidence was reflected in the new orders and equipment announced at the show. Marconi-Elliott, in particular, with its new 'head-up' display had, by the end of exhibition, announced that it had won the contract worth £2.5 million to supply their system to the pre-production F-16 combat fighters for service with the United States Air Force. In addition, Redifon revealed that it had collected orders worth £2.1 million to supply a flight simulator to Japan Air Lines.

Other British orders were taken by Britten-Norman for two Trislanders for Trans-Jamaican Airlines which with current orders has enabled this firm to double its Trislander production from two to four a month.

However, it was generally accepted by most companies which exhibited at the Paris show that the amount of new business which came as a direct result of exhibiting was comparatively small. But, the event did provide a meeting place for all the important people in the industry to get together, to swap ideas, and to meet new contacts on neutral ground. Most firms agreed that when looked at from this point of view then the show had been worthwhile.

Lord Beswick, Minister of State at the Department of Industry (right), sees the latest version of what is probably the world's best known ejection seat on the stand of Martin-Baker Aircraft at the Paris International Aeronautics and Space Exhibition.

Wide spectrum of hospital and medical equipment at Düsseldorf

From G. Rogers, British Consulate-General, Düsseldorf: The world's largest trade fair for hospital and medical equipment and supplies – Interhospital – was held in Düsseldorf from 10-13 June. The fair opened its doors to 63,000 trade visitors from all over the world including a number of visitors from Eastern bloc countries. The overall business transacted by the 300 exhibitors who came from 18 countries, exceeded all expectations.

The fair was indicative of the current boom in medical supplies and equipment in Europe and other countries in spite of the economic recession or stagnation experienced in other industries. Interhospital covered nine halls with altogether 45,000 m² of exhibition space at the superlative exhibition centre.

There were altogether 30 British firms at Interhospital. The joint venture with 23 firms was by far the largest government exhibit. It was sponsored by the British Hospitals Export Council and organised by the BOTB and the British Consulate-General in Düsseldorf. Total sales achieved among the stands amounted to some £130,000 and very substantial follow-up business is expected.

The British participants showed a wide spectrum of products, ranging from surgical suction equipment, wheelchairs, plastic and rubber medical products, sterilisers, surgical instruments, rehabilitation equipment, water beds and other special beds, to surgical dressings, floor cleaning machines, castors and complete designing services for surgical units. The products created much interest and inquiries were received from as far afield as Australia, South Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

Comparisons with competitors' products often showed British equipment to be superior in quality and design, and prices were more than competitive in many instances. One highly successful British exhibitor sold £80,000 worth of castors. Orders in the region of £15,000 and £20,000 were taken by other firms. All British participants were satisfied with the trading results.

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Award for British stand at International Samples Fair, Barcelona

From L. J. Evans, British Consulate-General, Barcelona: Professionalism was the keynote of the 43rd International Samples Fair which took place in Barcelona from 3-12 June. A total of some 3,386 exhibitors took part and approximately 1,201 came from outside Spain. Twenty countries were represented by official and national stands. The emphasis was on the professional buyer, for whom special facilities were made available on a much greater scale than in previous years, and some 128,400 professional visitors are estimated to have attended.

The Barcelona Samples Fair, an annual event of a general nature, attracts visitors from all over Spain as well as from abroad. In recent years it has become official policy to introduce a note of specialisation by dividing the Fair into a number of individual sectors – this year's sectors were metal and plastics working machinery, hydraulic, pneumatic, electrical and electronic equipment and components, building and fire fighting equipment and materials, office equipment and materials, and furniture and lamps.

Specialised range of products

British official participation, the first for several years, took the form of a joint venture stand organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and sponsored by the Birmingham Engineering and Building Centre and the Association of Hydraulic Equipment Manufacturers. Eleven British manufacturers exhibited a specialised range of products including hydraulic and pneumatic seals, hydraulic motors, pressure control valves, hydrostatic steering units, investment castings, cutting and drilling tools, industrial floor cleaners, as well as technical publications in an attractive stand, which also included information desks manned by the two sponsoring associations.

The British official stand received an award from the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce and Navigation for outstanding design and organisation. British Airways (European Division) and the British Chamber of Commerce in Spain also had adjoining stands. In addition to the British official stand, a wide range of products was exhibited by the local agents of some 70 British manufacturers.

Most exhibitors at the official British stand agreed that participation had been well worthwhile, and that an encouraging number of promising inquiries was received.

The principal themes and sectors for the 1976 Barcelona International Samples Fair have yet to be determined, but the increasing emphasis on individual sector specialisation and the official Spanish policy of encouraging attendance by professional buyers and experts from all over Spain, and indeed the world, should make this Fair an increasingly attractive proposition for British exporters in future years.

Visitors to the G. and J. Hall Ltd. stand at Barcelona's International Samples Fair.

Electro–optics in Munich

A group of 16 British companies took part in the Exhibition for Electro-Optical Systems and their Applications, 'LASER '75 Opto-Electronics,' in Munich. from 24-27 June. The firms were in a joint venture sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board in conjunction with the Scientific Instrument Research Association.

The latest developments in laser technology and the most advanced electro-optical systems and equipment were shown by the British companies, who staged working demonstrations throughout the exhibition. For the first time in the Federal Republic of Germany there was a working demonstration of the alpha numeric display module.

Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade (centre), takes an interest in a modular numerically controlled machine on the stand of Kearney, Trecker and Marwin Ltd. during his visit to the first Euro-World Machine Tool Exhibition in Paris. This major international event, which ran from 17-26 June, attracted the largest official British participation (83 firms) at any international machine tool show this year. The firms were directed by the British Overseas Trade Board in co-operation with the Machine Tool Trades Association.

Missions and Tours

Limbo dancing launches visit

A 14-strong group will set out from the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce on 12 July for a week's work based on Kingston, Jamaica. At the conclusion of the mission, which will be sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board, members will travel on to visit other markets in the Caribbean and elsewhere.

The mission was launched earlier this year when the Birmingham Chamber staged a Jamaican evening which attracted a large audience of UK businessmen and their wives.

For the UK manufacturer and exporter, Jamaica presents many worthwhile opportunities including a market that is becoming more attuned to industrialisation and is worthy of special attention. The trading pattern for 1975 and beyond suggests that there are favourable prospects for a wide range of both capital and consumer goods. This important trading centre is giving much attention to the setting up of industries (including the manufacture of foodstuffs) based where possible on local materials to replace imports, both for the local market and for export within the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM) and elsewhere.

The Birmingham Chamber is planning a follow-up visit – to be linked with Trinidad – in November next year.

Canadians see Midlands and Sheffield

Representatives of 17 Canadian firms are currently visiting the UK (from 28 June to 16 July) as guests of the British Overseas Trade Board, the Federation of British Hand Tool Manufacturers, and the National Federation of Engineers Tool Manufacturers.

The members of the mission are from companies in the west of Canada – British Columbia, Manitoba, and Alberta – and their visit follows closely on two outward missions to Western Canada arranged by the BOTB earlier this year.

The Canadians will be visiting 17 UK manufacturing companies in the Midlands and Sheffield.

USA separate itineraries

A new-style trade mission to the USA left Birmingham on 21 June.

Organised by Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board, the mission was based on New York, but the 14 members were able to arrange separate itineraries with the BOTB, and, as a result, travelled all over North America and Canada in the pursuit of business. In the past members have been required to remain in the base city for two-thirds of the mission's duration.

London mission to Turkey

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry is taking a trade mission to Turkey from 12-22 October. This is open to non-members and a Government subsidy is available. Inquiries to Mrs. M. C. Yelland, tel. 01-248 4444, ext. 304.

Scatter mission to Iran

The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Trade Mission to Iran from 29 November-10 December this year under the Department of Trade Mission Scheme for exporters of British goods and services.

The mission is of the 'scatter' type and delegates are free to travel where they wish within Iran, after an initial briefing meeting in Tehran. Individual itineraries must be agreed with the Department of Trade before the departure of the Mission.

Merseyside Chamber visit to Iran

An 18-member trade mission to Iran, organised by the Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board, concluded its visit on 10 June.

The principal aim of the visit was to investigate this inportant market at first hand, to gauge its potential and to make important contacts.

All the members succeeded in making valuable contacts on which they can now build, and one or two who already had agents established were able to stimulate them to greater efforts.

One of the possible developments which certain of the members have been seriously considering is that of a joint venture undertaking with Iranian partners and negotiations have been proceeding towards this end. This requires time, likewise the selection and appointment of a suitable agent, and many members of the mission have already announced their intention of paying an early return visit to Iran.

ICETT success in Middle East

Following the successful mission to the Middle East in October and November 1974, the Industrial Council for Educational and Training Technology in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board, organised a second mission from 1-11 May which visited Syria and Egypt.

Under the joint leadership of Mr. R. Boman, managing director of Sign Electronics (International) Ltd., and Dr. C. Treleaven managing director of Armfield Technical Education Ltd., the mission discussed the contributions and potential contributions which British companies could make to educational and training needs.

A corner of the British Exhibition Art 6 '75, shown at Basle from 18-23 June. The British display was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Fine Arts and Antique Export Committee.

Export Business

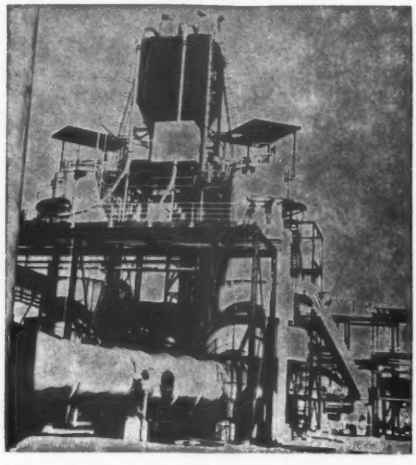
£4m Middle East power station

Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering Ltd. is to supply a £4 million 11.5MW diesel power station for the Gulf State of Ajman, north of Dubai on the west coast of the United Arab Emirates.

The order, placed by the Ministry of Electricity and Water for the United Arab Emirates, includes all the civil engineering work and the supply of generation and electrical equipment.

Equipment to be supplied by Hawker Siddeley companies includes: two diesel engines, each producing 3154 bhp from Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd. at Stockport; high and low voltage switchgear from Brush Switchgear Ltd.; ac generators to be built by Brush Electrical Machines Ltd. and auxiliary transformers from Brush Transformers Ltd., all of Loughborough.

The contract was signed by Sheikh Abdulla Humaid Al Qasimi, Minister of Electricity and Water, and Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering's Sales Manager, Mr. Ray Mason.



Giant incinerators, some of the largest ever supplied by Peabody Holmes Ltd. Each incinerator is 40 ft. 9 in. high by 17 ft. 6 in. in diameter. They have been installed at a new nickel-copper smelter which has recently come on stream in Botswana. Under contracts worth approximately £165,000, Peabody Holmes supplied two direct fired air heaters with combined pulverised coal and diesel oil burners, and two malodorous gas incinerators fitted with similar burners.

Rockets for German space research

British Aircraft Corporation Electronic and Space Systems at Bristol are to export Skylark scientific research rockets to DFLVR (Deutsche Forschungs – und Versuchsanstalt für Luft-und Raumfahrt EV) Mobile Raketenbasis, Germany. Under the £465,000 contract, BAC will supply 11 Skylark vehicles to DFVLR who are to prepare and launch them from various ranges on behalf of experimenters in German universities, space research and other scientific groups.

Four of the 11 Skylarks BAC will supply will be of the recently developed Skylark Type 12 which can carry a 150 kg. (330 lb) payload of experiments to 750 km. (469 miles).

DFVLR intend to launch one Skylark from Woomera, South Australia, two from the Spanish National Range at Arenosillo, and eight from the Norwegian Rocket Range at Andoya – the latter as part of the International Magnetospheric Study from 1976 to 1978.

Unataps installed in employees' washrooms at the new Heineken bottling plant at Zoeterwoode, Holland, said to be Europe's most modern plant of this type. The Unataps, as well as Leonard thermostatic shower valves installed there, are made by Walker Crosweller and Co. Ltd., Cheltenham.

Vitrified clay conduit for Port of Damman

Export contracts totalling more than £280,000 have been negotiated by Sheffield-based Hepworth Iron Company for the supply of vitrified clay conduit in the company's HepDuct system for the Port of Damman, Saudi Arabia.

The pipe, to be shipped in 100 mm. and 150 mm. diameters, will carry electricity and telecommunications services as part of the port reconstruction project.

Consulting engineers are Sir Bruce White, Wolfe Barry and Partners. Archiroden SA are the main contractors.

Hepworth's HepDuct system is based on all-purpose plain-end vitrified clay pipe incorporating a plastic sleeve to form a simple but highly effective push-fit joint. Available with bends in a range of diameters from 90 mm. to 300 mm., the system eliminates traditional multiways in favour of any convenient trench make-up.

The Port of Damman project is one of a number of major export successes for Hepworth, principal of these being a £350,000 contract to supply pipes in the HepSleve and HepSeal drainage systems for a main drainage scheme at Qatif.

The company has also received orders from Algeria for pipelines to be used in pumping stations.

Automatic fire detection on Belgian storage sites

Major petroleum storage sites in Belgium are to be safeguarded by British electronic early warning fire detection systems under export contracts won by the EMI group.

Altogether, a total of 45 highly-sensitive flame detection schemes worth around £65,000, are to be installed at four regional petroleum depots operated by the Fina oil company in Belgium. The storage installations cover a combined ground area of some 750,000 sq. ft. (70,000 sq. m.).

The equipment contracts were placed with the International Division of AFA-Minerva (EMI) Ltd., of Twickenham, Middlesex, by the company's sole Belgian agent, NIRA Belgium NV, based at the French-border town of Wevelgem. NIRA will be responsible for installing the British equipment, deliveries of which are expected to be completed during 1975.

The automatic fire protection units being supplied are AFA-Minerva's 'Infrastat' fixed-beam infra-red detectors which will be positioned outdoors at each depot to keep continuous round-the-clock surveillance on areas of specific fire risk.

A 'first' to USA

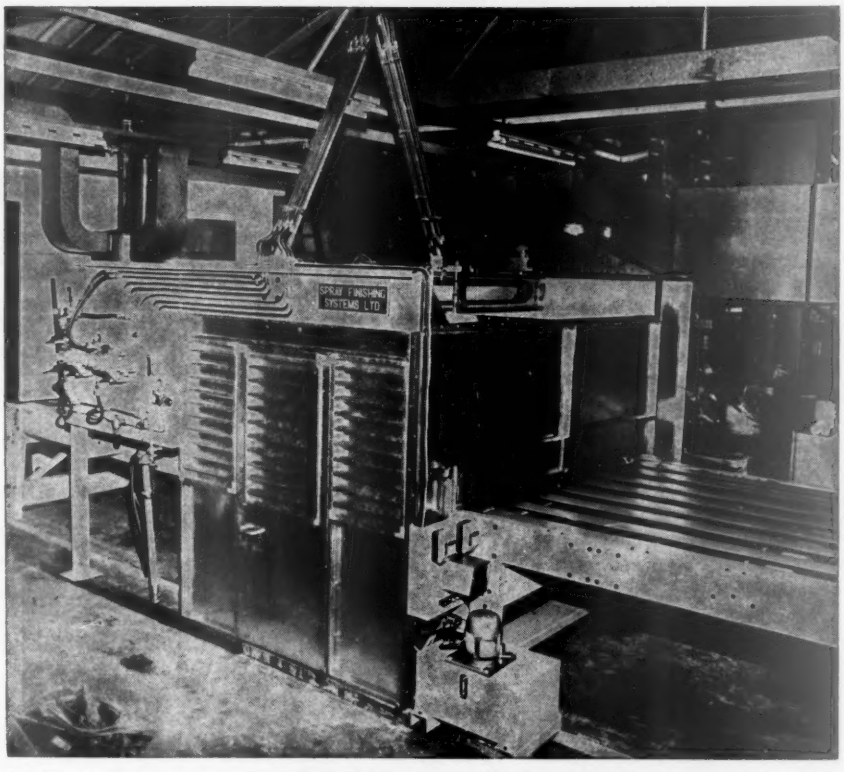
The 'first-ever' export of cattle semen from Britain to the USA has left Heathrow airport.

First consignment of an order worth £½ million on the American cattle breeding market, the semen was from eight Meuse Rhine Issel bulls brought to Britain from Holland.

The deal was completed after two years of planning by Universal Livestock Services Ltd., of Banbury. According to the company exports to the USA of semen for artificial insemination has never been permitted before, mainly because of the very strict veterinary import regulations imposed by the US Department of Agriculture.

But Universal Livestock Services organised facilities to meet all requirements during 18 months of negotiation with the British and US agricultural authorities. As a result, the Dartington Hall Cattle Breeding Centre, near Totnes, Devon, was approved for the work. It is the first UK centre to get clearance from the US authorities.

A company spokesman said that the initial consignment was for 11,171 doses of semen – enough to breed around 7,500 calves. Later he hoped to export semen from UK breeds, such as Friesian and South Devon.



A fully automatic contact adhesive application plant which Spray Finishing Systems Ltd., Eastbourne, have supplied to a leading Finnish manufacturer of prefabricated buildings. The plant will be used for the spray application of adhesive on to both chipboard and melamine laminate at a rate of up to 300 m. per hour, and will be part of a completely automatic laminating line.

Survey equipment for Lagos

Tellurometer, a Plessey company, has received an order valued at more than £50,000 for the supply of the MRA 3 microwave distance measuring equipment to the Nigerian Federal Survey Department, in Lagos. The equipment will be used by the Department for extending its national geodetic survey operations throughout Nigeria.

Telephone exchanges, UAE

GEC Telecommunications Limited has received £½ million-worth of orders for private telephone exchanges to be installed in the United Arab Emirates.

The orders include two installations in Dubai: a 200-line PABX3 exchange with 15 exchange lines and a low-line manual console for a hotel; a 200-line PABX4 exchange with 17 exchange lines, and a low-line cordless manual console. Both these orders are from the Dubai State Telephone Company.

Houses for Bahrain college

Weir Construction has secured a £150,000 contract for the urgent supply of 10 special design quality houses to be transported by air from their Scottish factory to the Gulf Technical College in Bahrain.

There will be an air lift of three flights. The first is due in Bahrain on 3 September.

This would seem to be the first known air lift of complete houses and, it is hoped, the forerunner of further pilot orders.

British valves for hospital in Spain

A German hospital being built in Spain is to be equipped with thermostatic valves made in Britain. Walker Crosweller and Co. Ltd., Cheltenham, who specialise in water temperature and flow control products for hospitals, industry, commercial and domestic purposes, have won a contract to supply the hospital with a large number of their Leonard thermostatic mixing valves of various sizes. They will be used throughout the hospital in Madrid for such purposes as surgeons' and nurses' scrub-ups, medical treatment and ablution baths, sluices and for showers.

The company has also received a contract from another hospital in Madrid, where both Leonard valves and Unatap economy spray-mixing taps have been specified for a new maternity block.

Sheffield firm wins Italian contract

The Hille Engineering Co. Ltd., Sheffield, have signed a contract worth £1,500,000 with Acciaieria E. Ferriera del Caleotto, of Lecco, Italy, for the design, supply, supervision of erection and commissioning of plant improvements to modernise a billet and rod mill. Credit is provided by a Financial Agreement arranged by Baring Brothers and Co. Ltd. under the guarantee of the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

Capital Plant International Ltd., a member of the Mitchell Cotts Group, is involved in the contractual and financial arrangements necessary for the implementation of the project.

Asbestos-cement pipes for Sharjah

An export order for asbestos-cement pipes worth nearly £1,200,000 has been won by TAC Construction Materials Ltd., the Manchester-based subsidiary of Turner and Newall.

The pipes will be used in a new water main system for the town and industrial development area of Sharjah, one of the United Arab Emirates.

The order, for approximately 6,000 tonnes of pipes and fittings, was won against both local and international competition.

The first load is expected to leave TAC's Ditton factory in mid-July.

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Trade Information

ECGD news:

Power and generator transformers for Mexico

The Exports Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a further £2.6 million to help finance contracts won by Parsons Peebles Power Transformers Ltd., of Edinburgh, for the supply of power and generator transformers.

The loan was made available to Comision Federal Electricidad (CFE) of Mexico by Lazard Brothers and Co. Ltd., acting on behalf of The Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd.

The equipment will be used in 11 power stations and substations throughout Mexico and forms part of CFE's fourth electrification expansion programme.

£10m line of credit for Poland

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £10 million line of credit which Midland Bank Ltd. have made available to Bank Handlowy w Warszawie, of Poland.

The loan will enable Polish buyers to place contracts in the UK for £11.5 million worth of capital and semi-capital equipment. The UK supplier will receive 85 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 15 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources. To qualify under the terms of the loan a contract must have a minimum value of £10,000 and be placed by 10 June 1976.

This brings the total of ECGD guaranteed lines of credit to Poland over the last two years to £72 million. The contracts placed under previous lines have included a wide range of goods such as cranes, mining plant, machine tools and computers.

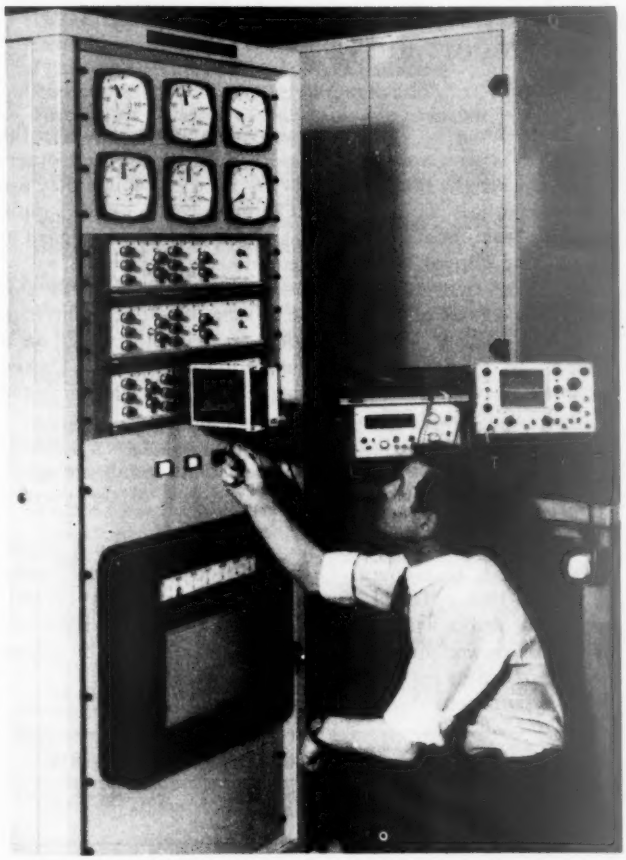
Exporters interested in further details of this facility should contact either Mr. S. E. Holby, of ECGD (tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 286), or Mr. A. W. R. Crocker, of Midland Bank (tel. 01-606 9911, ext. 3679).

£7.2m ethylene plant for Yugoslavia

The Export Credit Guarantee Department has guaranteed a loan of £7.2 million which Lloyds Bank Limited have made available to Privredna Banka Zagreb, Yugolsavia.

The loan will help finance an £8.5 million contract for an ethylene plant which has been awarded to Kinetics Technology International Limited of London (KTI) by Ina-Industrija Nafte. Under the contract KTI will be responsible for designing the plant, supervising its erection and supplying the equipment.

The plant will be located near Zagreb and have an annual production capacity of 90,000 metric tons of ethylene. Commissioning is scheduled for the summer of 1977.



A new British electronic supervisory/protection system for power station turbines has won a £55,000 export order from the New Zealand Electricity Department to safeguard turbo-generators at its Meremere power station. The Rotocheck system, produced by Sangamo Weston Controls Ltd., of Bognor Regis, has only recently been developed by Sangamo but is already in service at several CEGB power stations. It will monitor displacement, expansion and vibration in the Meremere turbines, with presettable alarms and automatic shutdown to ensure that they are always fully protected. Picture shows final inspection of one of the consoles destined for Meremere. One console is allocated to each of the seven 30 MW turbo-generators being monitored by the new system.

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Glass fibre factory for Yugoslavia

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £3 million loan which Lazard Brothers and Co. Ltd., acting on behalf of National Westminster Bank Ltd. and Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd., have made available to Industry for Glass and Glass Fibre, of Skopje, Yugoslavia.

The loan will help finance a contract for the supply of equipment and services won by Fibertech Consultants Ltd., of Fleet, Hampshire for a glass fibre plant to be constructed at Gostivar, near Skopje in Macedonia.

The plant is scheduled for commissioning mid-1977 and will have an annual production capacity of over 6,000 tonnes.

Application for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering an application for the temporary exemption from import duty of the helicopters within the weight range shown below on the grounds they are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonweatlh manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for such helicopters, or who are interested in their future production.

A temporary exemption will come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the goods are specified and normally continues until the end of the current calendar year, when it is reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to General Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66–74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association giving the reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption.

Representations should be received by 18 July.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
88.02	Helicopters of an unladen weight exceeding 2,000 kg. but not exceeding 5,000 kg.	As in previous column	31 December 1975	15624

Extension of temporary suspension of anti-dumping duty on moving eyes for dolls

The Department of Trade has reviewed the temporary suspension of the anti-dumping duty on moving eyes for dolls, other than eyes made of glass, and has made an order extending the temporary suspension for a further 12 months until 22 July 1976. This duty applied to imports originating in the USA and made by Jacoby-Bender Inc. (trading as the Dollac Co. of New York) or by the Margon Corporation of New York. It was imposed by the Anti-Dumping (No. 2) Order 1971.

The new order, the Anti-Dumping Duty (Temporary Suspension) (No. 4) Order 1975 (SI 1975 No. 1025) comes into operation on 22 July 1975. Before the end of the 12 month period the Department will review the suspension of the duty.

Copies of the order will be available from HMSO, 49 High Holborn, London WC1 (price 6p), or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 (price 11½p).

Note

An order suspending an anti-dumping duty may be revoked at any time during its operative period should there be a change in the circumstances under which the suspension was granted. Otherwise the suspension order will continue until the end of the operative period when it will automatically lapse unless a new order is made. When a suspension order ceases to have effect, the anti-dumping duty is restored at its former rate.

Hints to business men booklets

A revised edition of the booklet on Libya has been published in the 'Hints to Business Men' series. British business men who intend visiting this country on export business can obtain copies of the booklet from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146, or any Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

Notices to Importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB.

No. 1494: Imports of cotton yarn from Turkey and Greece

Notices to Importers No's 1473 and 1485 (see *Trade and Industry* of 2 January 1975 and 28 March 1975, respectively) set out the licensing arrangements for imports of cotton yarn (tariff heading 55.05) originating in, or consigned to the UK from, Turkey or Greece, for the six months ending 30 June 1975.

As the EEC consultations in this context have still not been completed the existing interim arrangements are to be further extended for a period of six months up to 31 December 1975.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-215 5638.

Certificates of origin: issuing bodies

The following organisations have been designated by the United Kingdom Government for the purpose of issuing certificates of origin under Article 11 of the International Convention relating to the Simplification of Customs Formalities 1923:

Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce
Ayr Chamber of Commerce

Barnsley and District Chamber of Commerce
Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Blackburn and District Chamber of Commerce
Bolton and District Chamber of Commerce
Bradford Chamber of Commerce
Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Burnley and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Burton upon Trent and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Bury and District Chamber of Commerce

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Cardiff Chamber of Commerce
Carlisle Chamber of Commerce
*Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce
Colchester and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Coventry Chamber of Commerce
Croydon Chamber of Commerce

Derby and Derbyshire Chamber of Commerce
Dewsbury Chamber of Commerce
Doncaster Chamber of Commerce
Dorset Chamber of Commerce
Dudley and District Chamber of Commerce
Dundee Chamber of Commerce

Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Exeter and District Chamber of Commerce

Federation of Sussex Industries and Chamber of Commerce Ltd.
Forth Valley Chamber of Commerce (Falkirk)

Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
Gloucester and County Chamber of Commerce
Goole Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Grantham Chamber of Commerce
Great Grimsby Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Great Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce
Greenock Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures

Halifax and District Chamber of Commerce
Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce
Huddersfield and Spen Valley Chamber of Commerce
Hull Chamber of Commerce and Shipping

Ipswich Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce (Douglas)
Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce (Newport)

Jersey Chamber of Commerce (St. Helier)

Kendal and District Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Kidderminster Chamber of Commerce (Birmingham)
Kirkcaldy and East Fife Chamber of Commerce

Lancaster, Morecambe and District Chamber of Commerce (Lancaster)
Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Leicester and County Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Leith Chamber of Commerce
Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (and branch issuing offices at Barking and Crawley)
Lowestoft Chamber of Commerce
Luton, Dunstable and District Chamber of Commerce (Luton)

Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Medway Chamber of Commerce
Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Liverpool)

Neath, Briton Ferry and District Chamber of Commerce (Neath)
Newark Chamber of Commerce
*Newhaven and District Chamber of Commerce
Newport and Monmouthshire Chamber of Commerce
North Lindsey Chamber of Commerce
North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Northampton and County Chamber of Commerce
Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Belfast)
Norwich Chamber of Commerce
Nottingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Oldham and District Chamber of Commerce

Paisley Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ltd.
Perthshire Chamber of Commerce (Perth)
Plymouth Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Port of Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce
Port Talbot Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Preston and District Chamber of Commerce

Reading Chamber of Commerce and Trade
Rochdale and District Chamber of Commerce
Rotherham and District Chamber of Commerce
Rugby Chamber of Commerce

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Slough and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry (branch issuing offices also at London Airport (Heathrow) and High Wycombe)
South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce (Hawick)
Southampton Chamber of Commerce
Southend Chamber of Trade, Commerce and Industry
Stockport Chamber of Commerce
Swansea Chamber of Commerce and Shipping

Telford Chamber of Industry and Commerce Ltd.
Teesside and District Chamber of Commerce
Royal Tunbridge Wells Chamber of Trade
Tyne and Wear Chamber of Commerce (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Wakefield Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Walsall Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Warrington Chamber of Commerce
City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce
*Widnes Chamber of Commerce
*Wigan and District Chamber of Commerce
Wirral Chamber of Commerce
Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Worcester Chamber of Commerce

* Does NOT certify movement certificates.

The list previously published, in *Trade and Industry* of 23 January 1975, is hereby cancelled.

Information for exporters

Exporters are informed that foreign Customs authorities may refuse certificates of origin other than those issued by organisations designated by the Department of Trade and listed above. Exporters are advised that difficulties may also arise over documents which do no more than authenticate the signature of the declarer (even if the signature of the declarer is later officially authenticated).

Refusal by foreign Customs authorities to accept certificates of origin or difficulties arising, for the reasons given above, are almost bound to lead to delay in delivery of the goods concerned, and may in certain circumstances lead to forfeiture of the goods, or in the imposition of financial penalties, or both.

Chambers of Commerce seeking designation to issue certificates of origin universally acceptable to foreign Customs authorities under the provisions of international Conventions should apply in the first instance to the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 75 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5BB, as the ABCC acts as an advisory body to the Department of Trade on these matters.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Netherlands

Food regulations: Jam and Lemonade Decree. Decree of 23 May 1975 (*Staatsblad* 286, published on 17 June 1975) stipulates that Decree of 24 April 1975 (*Staatsblad* 231), modifying the Jam and Lemonade Decree (Commodity Law) shall enter into force from 1 July 1975.

Copies of the above-mentioned decrees are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Import licensing: electronic calculating machines. Netherlands *Staatsblad* 1975, 232 (published on 5 June 1975) contains Decree of 1 May 1975 under which, with effect from 6 August 1975 an import licence is required for electronic calculating machines having four or more operations and having a display or printing capacity of 10 or more digits falling within heading No. ex 84.52 A of the Netherlands tariff.

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Spain

Temporary reductions of duty revoked: The Spanish *State Gazette*, 21 June 1975 published Decree 1361/1975 which cancelled all reductions in the import duties temporarily granted, mainly by Decrees 1467/1973 (see *Trade and Industry* 2 August 1973, page 228) and Decree 1426/1973. The new rate of duties came into effect on 21 June 1975 and cover a wide range of goods. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Technicians at the Leeds laboratory of Badger Systems test units of the company's new radio remote control equipment before despatch to Poland. Badger Systems is supplying seven units for use with its recently introduced Badger linkage for trenchless pipelaying as part of a £200,000 export contract, and now plans to market the equipment for other civil engineering and industrial applications. The principal role of the unit is to provide remote control of pipelayers, forklift trucks, bulldozers, cranes and other equipment. Basically, the system comprises a transmitter and a receiver designed for most operating conditions.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Sweden

Equalisation Tax. The Swedish Authorities have announced the following increase in the Equalisation Tax on sugar confectionery:

BN no.	Product	Rate of tax in kronor per 100 kg.
17.04 901-909	Sugar confectionery, not containing cocoa, with the exception of fondant pastes, almond pastes, creams and other similar intermediate products, in bulk	40
18.06 102-302, 909	Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa, with the exception of ice-cream, ice-cream powders, ice-cream pastes, table cream powders and puddings; also powders, flakes, pastes and liquid preparations for the manufacture of beverages	40
19.08 103/05	Biscuits and wafers	40
21.07 ex 901	Confectionery not falling within any other heading, with the exception of pulp, pastes and other similar intermediate products in bulk	40

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/459.

Malta

Customs entries. In the Malta *Government Gazette*, 13 June 1975, Legal Notice 68 of 1975, specified that exporters to Malta should

state on their Customs Entry Forms the units of quantities of each article in addition to the value. Where weight or measure is affixed to a particular tariff heading, this should be shown in kilos, litres, metres or as relevant. Where an article in a specified Chapter requires a different unit of measure from that of the other items in the Chapter, this is denoted as an 'exception' and the quantity to be designated on the entry is that given against the tariff number of the item, the exceptions read as follows:

Chapter	Title	Unit	Exception
1	Live animals	Number	For bullocks (tariff no. 01.02) both number and kilos
4	Dairy produce, birds' eggs; natural honey	Kilos	For eggs (tariff no. 04.05) number
44	Wood and articles of wood, wood charcoal	Kilos	Except for wood (tariff nos. 44.03, 44.04, 44.05) cubic metres
48	Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paper board	Kilos	For toilet paper (part of tariff no. 48.15) number
50	Silk and waste silk	Kilos	For woven fabrics (tariff no. 50.10) metres
51	Man-made fibres (continuous)	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 51.04) square metres
52	Metallised textiles	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 52.02) square metres
53	Wool and other animal hair	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 53.11, 53.12, 53.13) square metres
54	Flax and ramie	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 54.05) square metres
55	Cotton	Kilos	For fabrics and cloth (tariff no. 55.07, 55.08, 55.09) square metres
56	Man-made fibres (discontinuous)	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 56.07) square metres
57	Other vegetable textile materials; paper yarn and woven fabric of paper yarn	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 57.09, 57.10, 57.11, 57.12) square metres
58	Carpets, mats, matting and tapestries; pile and chenille fabrics; narrow fabrics; trimmings; tulle and other net fabrics; lace; embroidery	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 58.04, 58.05) square metres
59	Wadding and felt; twine, cordage, ropes and cables; special fabrics impregnated and coated fabrics; textile fabrics of a kind suitable for industrial use	Kilos	For fabrics (tariff no. 59.03, 59.07, 59.08, 59.09, 59.11, 59.12, 59.17) square metres
60	Knitted and crocheted goods	Square	For gloves, stockings (tariff no. 60.02, 60.03, 60.04) pairs and kilos. For cardigans (60.05) number and kilos
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of textile fabrics, other than knitted or crocheted goods	Kilos	For (tariff no. 61.01(A) 61.01(B) number and kilos, 61.03(A to D), 61.04(A), 61.07(A) and 61.09(A) number. For (tariff no. 61.10(B) pairs
62	Other made-up textile articles	Kilos	For (tariff no. 62.02(A), 62.01(B), 62.02(C) number
64	Footwear, gaiters and the like; parts of such articles	Pairs	For parts (tariff no. 64.05, 64.06) kilos
66	Umbrellas, sunshades, walking-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof	Number	For (tariff no. 66.03) kilos
70	Glass and glass ware	Kilos	For unworked glass in rectangles, etc. (tariff no. 70.04, 70.05, 70.06) square metres. For bottles and jars (tariff no. 70.10) number
71	Pearls precious and semi-precious stones, precious metals, rolled precious metals, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery	Grams	For diamonds (tariff no. 71.01, 71.02) carat
73	Iron and steel and articles thereof	Kilos	For (tariff no. 73.36) number
74	Copper and articles thereof	Kilos	For (tariff no. 74.17) number
91	Clocks and watches and parts thereof	Number	Parts in kilos
92	Musical instructions; sound recorders and reproducers; parts and accessories of such articles	Number	Parts in kilos
94	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	Number	Parts in kilos
97	Toys, games and other sports requisites; parts thereof	Kilos	For playing cards (tariff no. 97.04) number

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Import licensing control. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 17 June 1975, announced that as from 13 June, the following articles have been placed under import licensing control:

a Bleaching preparations (excluding pharmaceutical preparations)

b Disinfectants (excluding pharmaceutical preparations)

c Plastic cops for textile industries

d The following PVC items:
- i Drain pipes
- ii Electrical conduits
- iii Hose pipes
- iv Sewer pipes

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Libya

Ban on British goods. A notice in *Trade and Industry* of 10 January 1974, gave details of an embargo by the Government of the Libyan Arab Republic on a wide range of British consumer goods.

The British Embassy in Tripoli have been advised that tobacco and cigarettes are now exempt from the embargo. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Jordan

Registration of fertilisers. A ruling to control all types of fertilisers whether natural, mineral or chemically treated has been issued by the Jordanian Minister of Agriculture in accordance with Article 53 of Agriculture Law No. 20 for 1973. A copy of the main points of interest for United Kingdom exporters (but not a full translation of the ruling) is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

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Israel

Further information on import liberalisation list amendments

Further to *Trade and Industry* of 6 June (page 583) the following additional items have now been reinstated on the Free Import list:

BN 51.04 1100 and 9130
58.09 1032
58.10 4000
60.01 1210 to 3000
60.06 1000

The following products have been finally taken off from the Free Import order and shall in future require import permits:

Description	BN no.
Edible fruit and nuts (including raisins and fruit pulp)	Chapter 08
Beer	22.03
Grey portland cement	25.23-1000
Veneer coated laminated boards	44.15-1500
Plywood	44.15-2000
Carpets of all kinds	58.01 to 58.03
Textile fabrics according to the following items: 51.04 (excluding 11100 and 9130; 53.11; 55.09; 56.07; 58.04; 58.09 (excluding 1032); 58.10 (excluding 4000); 60.01 (excluding 1210-3000); 60.06-1000	Chapters 51-60
Ceramic products	69.07-69.14
Private cars	87.02-1090

The import ban on private cars and delivery vans of up to 2.5 tons of B.N. 87.02 remains in force until 1 September 1975 (see *Trade and Industry* of 6 February). No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR 475/420.

Tariff amendments. The Israel authorities have issued the following amendments to the customs tariff:

Item no.	Description	Rate of duty
39.02	In this item Section 1010 is superseded by:	
	Polyethylene:	
	of a specific weight exceeding 0.940	25% kg.
	Other	30% kg.
73.10	Section 1014 is superseded by:	
	Round, of a diameter of 8 mm. or more	0.065 per kg. +20%
	Section 1093 is superseded by:	
	Round of a diameter of 8 mm. or more	0.065 per kg. +20%
	Section 2030 is superseded by:	
	Rods including rolled wire with depressions and protrusions (such as tongues, ribs, grooves or recesses, whether or not they have undergone a process of twisting)	0.065 per kg. +20%

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Incandescent lamps. The Israeli authorities have issued a ruling that no person may manufacture or import:

a special incandescent lamps, unless they conform with the requirements of the Standards Institute General Specification No. 5 of November 1974

b incandescent lamps with integral light reflectors unless they conform with the Standards Institute General Specifications No. 6 of November 1974.

This order was issued on 23 April and becomes compulsory after 30 days.

The Standards Institution of Israel issues an English translation of the standard and copies may be obtained from British Standards Institution Library, 2 Park Street, London W1 (tel. 01-629 9000, telex 266933). British exporters requiring technical advice are advised to contact Technical Help to Exporters, British Standards Institution, Marylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HB1 1BR (tel. 0442-3111, telex 82424).

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Oman

Weights and measures: further information. The Sultan's Decree No. 38 of 74, published in the *Official Gazette* No. 65 of 15 October 1974 (EIS Notice No. 307 of 5 March refers) announced that the metric system was being adopted for the unit of weight.

The Sultan's further Decree, No. 15 of 1975, published in the *Official Gazette* No. 79 of 15 May 1975, announced that the metric system is now to be adopted for all remaining measurements. Thus a metre will be the unit of length, a litre the unit of volume and centigrade the unit of temperature.

All measurements of length, volume and temperature must by not later than 21 December 1975 be shown in the units mentioned above. Anyone using weights contrary to those stipulated by Decree No. 15 of 1975 after 31 December 1975 is liable to be punished in accordance with Article 292 of the Oman Penal Code.

No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

UDEAC (Union Douanière des Etats de L'Afrique Centrale)

Alcoholic drinks labelling. According to ACTE No. 5/74-CD-999 of 24 June 1974, UDEAC adopted the following regulations concerning importation and manufacture of alcoholic drinks:

i Bottled and other containers of alcoholic drinks, with sole exception of beers and wines of not more than 13 per cent alcoholic content by volume, must carry a label giving degree of alcohol (degre alcoolique) of said drink in figures of 8 mm. for alcoholic description (titre alcoolique) and in letters of 4 mm. for qualifying description (titre qualificatif)

ii These arrangements will be applied with effect from 1 July 1975 to imports, as well as manufactures under the special tax regime for alcoholic drinks.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 472/462/471/473.

Zaire

Goods via Lobito. With reference to the notice published in *Trade and Industry* of 13 June (page 628), the State railway authority, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Zairois, BP 279, Lumbumbashi, has issued public notice No. 7/75, cancelling 6/75. This draws attention to the requirements of the Angolan port authorities that all packing cases destined for Zaire via Lobito must be marked on two sides with other shipping marks by a blue cross of at least 30 cm. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 472/462/471/473.

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Kenya

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Customs tariff amendments: The Kenyan Finance Bill 1975, published in the *Kenya Gazette* Supplement of 12 June, announces changes in duty/or wording and phrases used in the first, second and third schedules to the Customs Tariff Act, with effect from 13 June 1975. These amendments are too long to be reproduced here in full, but the classification of the items and the extent of the changes are shown below:

FIRST SCHEDULE – FISCAL ENTRY AND IMPORT DUTY

a By amendments to the wording and phrases used in the following chapters: 22, 32, 36, 40, 58, 61, 67, 69, 73, 82, 83, 84, 87, 90, 96.

b By the increase in the rates in the fiscal entry column affecting the following tariff numbers: 04.02A, 05.04A/06/07/08/09/10/11/12/14B/15B, 06.01/02, 09.01A, 10.05/06/07A, 11.08, 12.01A/07A/09/10, 13.02, 15.02A/03/04/07A/07B/08/09/10/11/12/14/15/16/17, 18.04, 19.08A, 20.05, 21.06C/07A, 22.01A/01B/05A(1)/05A(2)/05B(1)/05B(2)/06A/06B/08B, 23.01/02/03/04/05/06/07B, 25.01/02/03/04/05/07/08/09/10/11/12/13/14A/19/24/26/28/29/30/31/32, 26.01/02/03/04, 27.01/02/03/04/05/06/07/08/09/10A/10B/10C/10D(2)/11/13/14/15, 28.01/58C, 29.01/45D, 32.02/03/04B/05B/06B/07B/08/13A, 33.06A, 34.01/03C(1)/04B, 35.01/02/03B/04/05/06B, 36.01/02/03/04/05C, 38.01/02/03/04/05/06/07/08/09/10/12/13/14B/15/16/18/19I, 39.01/06A/06B/06C/07A/07C/07D/07H/07I/07J(2)/07K/07M/07N/07O/07P, 40.01/02/03/04/05/06A/09/10/13A/14A/14B/15A, 41.01/02/08, 42.04/06A, 43.01/03/4A, 44.07/21/22/25B/26, 45.01/02/03/04A/03/04B/03/04C, 46.02A, 47.02A, 48.01A(2)/01C(1)/07A/08/14A/15A/20/21A, 50.09/10, 51.01/03B/04A(1)/04A(2)/04B, 52.02, 53.11/13, 54.05B, 55.01/02/07/09A(1)/07/09A(2)/07/09D, 56.01/04A/05/06B, 57.01/04A, 59.05A(2)/05B/06A/11A/11B/13/15/16/17, 60.03/04/05A/05B(1)/06A/06B(1)/06B(2), 61.01B/03/04B/07/08/09/10, 62.01/02B/05A/05B, 65.03/04/05, 68.02A/04/05/06/11A/12A/13A/13C/15, 69.01/02/03/06C, 70.03A/17A/18/20A/21A, 71.05/06/07/08/09/10/14A, 73.01/02/03/04/05/06/07/08/09/10A(1)/11B/12B/14/16/17B/19/22B/23/24/25/26/27B/30/32C/38A(3)/40A/40D/40E/40F/40G/40H/40I/40K/40L/40M(1)(b)/40M(2), 74.01/02/03B/04B/06/07/08/09/11/15B/19A, 75.01/02/03/04/05/06B, 76.01/02/03A(1)/03C/03E/04/05/06/07/09B/10B/11/12B/13/16A/16B(1)(b)/16B(2), 77.01/02/03/04, 78.01/02/03/04/05/06A/06B, 79.01/02/03/04B/06B, 80.01/02/03/04/05/06B, 81.01/02/03/04, 82.02B/03D/04B/05/06B/07, 83.08/13B/15, 84.09/18C/27/32/39/49/50/57/59A/64B, 85.02/05/08B(2)/11/15C/19C/21A/22B/23B/24B/25/26/27, 87.02A(3)/02A(4)/02A(5)/02A(6)/02C/03B/03C/14B/14D/14E, 88.01/02/03/04/05, 90.01B/02B/06/09A/10A/11/12/13C/14/15/16B/21/22/23C/24C/25B/26/27A/27B/28B(1)/28C, 91.04A, 92.12C, 96.06B, 97.06, 99.01/02/03/05/06.

SECOND SCHEDULE – SUSPENDED FISCAL ENTRY

a By the insertion of the following new Related Heading Numbers: 84.01/02/03/04/05/07/08B/11A/12A/13/14/15A/16/19B(1)/23/29/30A/31/33/34B/35B/36/37A/38B/40B/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/56/60/61A/65A, 85.01A/04A/18A/20A/28A.

b (1) By the deletion of Related Heading Numbers 40.11A(1), 40.11C(1):
(2) The substitution for Related Heading Numbers 48.14 and 85.20A by new wording and Suspended Fiscal Entry.

THIRD SCHEDULE – EXEMPTION FROM FISCAL ENTRY AND IMPORT DUTY

In part A: by substituting for sub-item (f) of Item 3 the following:
(f) Kerosene and aviation spirit imported or purchased by the East African Airways Corporation solely for use in aircraft engines;
(g) Distillate fuels and residual fuel oils imported or purchased by the East African Railways Corporation solely for use in locomotives and marine engines;

In part B: by substituting for paragraph (2) of Item 1 the following:
(2) Kerosene and aviation spirit imported or purchased before clearance through Customs solely for use in aircraft engines by any airline designated under an air services agreement between the Government and a foreign government.

Note: It is expected that the above changes will also apply to the Tanzanian and Ugandan Customs Tariffs when their Finance Bills are published.

Sales tax: Amendments have been made to certain rates of sales tax, also new items have been added to the Schedules.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 673, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 20 June 1975, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on the following:

Bedlinen classifiable under tariff subheading 62.02.25 and kitchen linen classifiable under tariff subheading 62.02.45.

Acetaminophenol classifiable under tariff subheading 29.25.50.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 6 June 1975.

R1080 BN 51.02, 57.07 and 59.04: The rates of duty on strip of polyethyhene or polypropylene material, on sisal yarn and on twine, cordage, ropes and cables are increased.

R1081 BN 85.09, 87.02 and 87.04: The rate of duty on electric windscreen wiper motors for use as original equipment or as replacement equipment for passenger vehicles as well as for goods vehicles of a carrying capacity not exceeding 1,270 kg. and chassis of such goods vehicles, is amended from 20% to 90c per kg.

R1089 BN 51.04, 55.09 and 56.07: The rate of duty on certain woven printed fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous or discontinuous) and cotton, is amended.

R1091 BN 37.01, 37.02 and 85.14:
1 The duty on certain photographic plates, film in the flat and film in rolls, is amended from 10% (General) and free (MFN) to free (general).
2 The provisions referred to in tariff heading No. 85.14 are restated and the rate of duty on loudspeakers incorporated or housed in metal cabinets is amended from 20% or 4.00c each to 20%.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R1082 Item 316.07. BN 85.09: Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on commutators and brush holders for the manufacture of windscreen wiper motors.

R1090 Item 311.20. BN 51.04, 55.09 and 56.07: Provision is made for a rebate of duty on certain woven printed fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous or discontinuous) and cotton for the manufacture of women's and girls' outer garments (excluding fabrics used in the manufacture of swim wear).

R1092 Item 310.08. BN 37.01 and 37.02: The provisions for a rebate of duty on certain photographic plates, film in the flat and film in rolls, for use by the printing, publishing and bookbinding industry are withdrawn.

R1093 Item 316.04. BN 73.15: The existing provision for a rebate of duty on certain silcon steel sheets and strip, for the manufacture of electrical generators, motors, convertors, transformers and like apparatus, is extended to include coated silcon steel sheets and strip.

GENERAL REBATES

R1083 Item 460.11. BN 51.02, 51.04 and 59.08: The provisions for a temporary rebate of duty on polypropylene and polyethylene strip and on woven fabrics of polypropylene or polyethylene strip, are withdrawn.

R1085 Item 410.04. BN 27.10.

R1087 Item 605.05: The provisions for rebates or refunds of duty on kerosene, distillate fuels and residual fuel oils for certain purposes are amended with retrospective effect to 27 March 1975.

DRAWBACKS AND REFUNDS OF CUSTOM DUTY

R1084 Item 511.13. BN 39.02, 51.01 and 57.04: Provision is made for a drawback of the full duty on certain goods used in the manufacture of twine, cordage, ropes and cables, for export.

R1086 Item 533.00. BN 27.10: The provisions for refunds of duty on kerosene, distillate fuels and residual fuel oils, are amended with retrospective effect to 27 March 1975.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Sales duty. The following amendment was published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 13 June 1975:

R1176 BN87.02: The effect of this notice is that the sales duty on certain motor vehicles with a value for sales duty purposes exceeding R2850 but not exceeding R3050 is reduced from 12.5% to 7.5%.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 674, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 27 June 1975, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on the following: direct current motors classifiable under tariff subheading 85.01.01 and thyristor controllers classifiable under tariff subheading 85.01.50.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Mauritius

Import control. Government Notice No. 65 of 1975 announces, with effect from 10 May, an amendment to the list of goods which are subject to import licensing procedure:

a By deleting the following item: split peas;

b By adding the following new item:

Pulses in any form (eg dried peas and beans, lentils, dhal, etc.)

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Customs tariff change. The Government of Mauritius has issued Government Notice No. 79 of 1975 introducing a special duty of 10 per cent *ad volorem* or Re 1.00 each for brassieres (tariff no. 61.09.10), whether liable to general customs duty or preferential customs duty. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Bangladesh

'Wage Earners' scheme: correction. *Trade and Industry* of 6 June 1975 gave information (on page 585) about measures taken by the Government of Bangladesh following the devaluation of the taka.

We erroneously notified that the 'Wage Earners' scheme (which permits the imports of certain items into Bangladesh from the Foreign Exchange earnings of Bangladesh nationals working abroad), had been abolished. In fact, the 'Wage Earners' scheme is still in operation.

The measure which was affected, related to the Home Remittance Scheme, which permitted Bangladesh residents overseas to remit their earnings to Bangladesh at a concessionary rate of exchange. With effect from 17 May earnings remitted by Bangladesh residents overseas will be accorded only the official rate of exchange (taka 30 = £1). Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475 (re 'Wage Earners' scheme), otherwise CRE tel. 01-215 5278.

Japan

Screening of chemical substances. Notice in *Trade and Industry* of 14 March (page 699) announced that an unofficial translation of the Japanese law concerning the screening of chemical substances was available.

A final unofficial English translation has now been received and British exporters may obtain a copy on loan. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Australia

Copper foil: and primary shapes produced by rolling, drawing, extruding of non-ferrous metal: Industries Assistance Commission inquiry. The Industries Assistance Commission has released a draft of its report on copper foil; and primary shapes produced by rolling, drawing, extruding of non-ferrous metal. One copy is available on loan from Room 336, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

The draft has been released to give interested parties an opportunity to examine and comment on it within the Commission's public inquiry system before the report is finally settled.

In order to receive submissions on the draft, the commission will hold a further public hearing at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 6 August 1975 at The Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, Kings Avenue, Canberra. Witnesses are requested to update production, sales and financial data submitted at the original hearing in 1973, and forward preliminary copies of their proposed submissions and supplementary data to reach the Commission two weeks before the hearing commences. Ref. CRE 2175/72. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Multilateral Trade Negotiations: general rates of duty review. A reference has been sent to the Industries Assistance Commission requesting advice on certain matters relating to the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTNs) being held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Evidence will be taken as usual at public hearings but the eventual report will not be published, remaining confidential to the Australian Government during the course of the MTNs. Ref. CRE 43084. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5318.

Australia/Papua New Guinea

Income Tax Assessment Bill 1975. The Income Tax Assessment Bill 1975 has had its second reading in the House of Representatives.

The primary purpose of the Bill is to amend the Australian Income Tax law so that when Papua New Guinea becomes independent it will be treated as a separate country for Australian tax purposes.

The Bill, when enacted, is not, however, concerned exclusively with Papua New Guinea, and as such may have consequences for British companies and subsidiaries in both PNG and Australia. Ref. CRE 36488. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5318.

New Zealand

Tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Wood Chipping Machines and Screening Units) Amendment Order 1975, which came into force on 23 May 1975 amending tariff item 84.31.000 to read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 84						
Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof						
84.31	Machinery for making or finishing cellulosic pulp, paper or paperboard:					
84.31.001	Wood chipping machines and screening units	kg.	1974	10%	10%	Aul Free Can 5% DC 5% CPC 5%
84.31.009	Other kinds	kg.	1974	5%	1%	Aul Free
			1975	5%	2%	Can Free
			1976	5%	3%	DC Free
			1977	5%	5%	CPC Free

Aul = Australia
Can = Canada
DC = Developing Countries
CPC = Commonwealth Preference Countries

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Slate, marble, granite, pebbles, dolomite, etc. and copper tube: Tariff and Development Board reports. Copies of the New Zealand Tariff and Development Board reports on slate, marble, granite, pebbles, dolomite, etc. (tariff items 25.14.000, 25.15.000, 25.16.000, 25.17.000 and 25.18.000) and copper tube (tariff items 74.07.003, 74.07.004 and 74.07.005) are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division. Refs. CRE 62/74, CRE 1164/72. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

Earths and stone: tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Earths and Stone) Amendment Order 1975 which came into force on 13 June 1975 amending

New Zealand tariff items 25.14.000, 25.16.000, 25.17.000 and 25.18.000 which should now read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 25						
Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement						
25.14.000	Slate, including slate not further worked than roughly split, roughly squared or squared by sawing	kg.	1974	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free DC Free CPC Free
25.16.000	Granite, porphyry, basalt, sandstone and other monumental and building stone, including such stone not further worked than roughly split, roughly squared or squared by sawing	tonne	1974	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free DC Free CPC Free
25.17	Pebbles and crushed or broken stone (whether or not heat-treated), gravel, macadam and tarred macadam, of a kind commonly used for concrete aggregates, for road metalling or for railway or other ballast; flint and shingle, whether or not heat-treated; granules and chippings (whether or not heat-treated) and powder of stones falling within heading no. 25.15 or 25.16:					
25.17.001	Granules and chippings (whether of not heat-treated) and powder of stones falling within heading no. 25.15	tonne	1974	30%	30%	Aul Free
25.17.009	Other	tonne	1974	Free	Free	Aul Free
25.18.000	Dolomite, whether or not calcined, including dolomite not further worked than roughly split, roughly squared or squared by sawing; agglomerated dolomite (including tarred dolomite)	tonne	1974	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

Aul = Australia
Can = Canada
DC = Developing Countries
CPC = Commonwealth Preference Countries

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Copper tubes: tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Copper Tube) Amendment Order 1975 which came into force on 13 June 1975, amending New Zealand tariff items 74.07.001 and 74.07.002 which should now read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 74						
Copper and articles thereof						
74.07	Tubes and pipes and blanks therefor, of copper; hollow bars of copper:					
	Of unalloyed copper:					
74.07.003	Having a nominal external diameter of less than 3 mm.	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
74.07.004	Having a nominal internal diameter of 90 mm. and over	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
74.07.005	Other	kg.	1974	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
74.07.006	Of brass and muntz metal	kg.	1974 1975 1976 1977	20% 20% 20% 20%	4% 8% 12% 20%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

Aul = Australia
Can = Canada
CPC = Commonwealth Preference Countries

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Sulphur, etc., sulphates and persulphates, etc. Copies of the following New Zealand Tariff and Development Board report are available.

Sulphur, etc., sulphates and persulphates, etc. (tariff items 28.02.001, 28.02.009, 28.38.002, 28.38.009).

Ref. CRE 62/74. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

Canada

Regulations: photofluorographic X-ray equipment. The Health Protection Branch of the Canadian Department of Health and Welfare has issued Information Letter No. 440. Notice has been given in the *Canada Gazette* Part 1 of 5 April 1975, that the Governor in Council proposes to make amendments to the Radiation Emitting Devices Regulations establishing standards of design, construction and functioning for photofluorographic X-ray equipment. Comments on these proposals should be sent to the Director, Radiation Protection Bureau, Environmental Health Directorate Health Protection Branch, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa KIA ICI, no later than 28 July 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Proposed standard for contraceptive devices. The Canadian Department of Health and Welfare has issued Information Letter No. 441 which contains details of a proposed standard for condoms. Any representations should be made by 10 August to the Director, Bureau of Medical Devices, Environmental Health Directorate, Department of Health and Welfare, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario KIA IL2.

Copies of the Information Letter are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

United States

Hearings by Trade Policy Staff Committee. Further to the Notice appearing in *Trade and Industry* on 9 May 1975, more details about the actual dates of the hearings and the way in which oral and written evidence may be presented have been received and copies are obtainable. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5629.

Mexico

Import duties in free zones. Agreement No. 101-542 published in the *Diario Oficial* of 11 June 1975, contained a list of a wide range of goods which would be liable to import duty in the Free Zone of Baja California Norte and the partial Free Zone of Sonora. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Grenada

Exchange control. The Grenada *Gazette* No. 23 of 15 May 1975 gave notice that, from that date, prior approval must be obtained from the Ministry of Finance, Trade and Industry before the transfer can be effected of any payments to the UK or elsewhere. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Barbados

Import licensing. The Barbados Authorities, by SI 108 and SI 118 of 9 and 30 May respectively, have stated that an import licence is required for the following items: BTN No. 21.02 instant coffee; BTN No. 35.06 prepared glues not elsewhere specified or included; products suitable for use as glues put up for sale by retail as glues in packages not exceeding a net weight of 1 kg.; BTN No. 62.03 shopping bags, satchels, handbags, wallets, purses, pocket books and similar articles of jute and Millfeed (Pollard). Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Bolivia

New customs tariff. A copy of the new Bolivian Customs Tariff has been received and a translation is being prepared. The overall effect is one of consolidating the changes made in the last 18 months (up to 4 April 1975). Inquiries from British exporters about this notice should specify the products with which they are concerned: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Chile

Exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank has announced the following revised exchange rates effective from 11 June 1975:

'Bank' rate raised from 4,300 Escudos to 4,600 Escudos per US dollar;

'Brokers' rate raised from 4,800 Escudos to 5,100 Escudos per US dollar.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5289.

Argentina

Prior deposits. An unofficial translation of Central Bank Circular RC535 provides the following information:

Importers are called on to deposit in pesos, the equivalent of 100 per cent of the fob price for all goods they are to import. The rate of exchange ruling for each type of transaction will be applied.

The deposit will be held until the moment the goods are paid for and then will be automatically adjudicated to the purchase of the foreign exchange necessary.

Interest rates will be those applied to the forward exchange market.

Payment will have to be made for the different types of transactions, as follows:

Documentary Credit

As at date of opening. In those cases where the credit has been opened but as at 10 June not been fully utilised, the balance not after five working days as from receipt of the documents by the authorised entity.

Collections or Drafts

As from date of placing the purchase order abroad and not after five days as from receipt of the documents by the authorised entity.

Other transactions

Not less than 180 days from date of payment abroad.

The operation can be cancelled and money returned immediately when it has been proved that the transaction will not take place, and interest paid which has accrued will be paid.

To be able to clear the goods the Importers must present to the Argentine Customs authority together with the shipping documents, a bank certificate which certifies that the compulsory payment has been made.

Exemptions

The above ruling will not be applicable to the following:

Goods in transit or in Argentine Ports as at 10 June 1975.

Capital goods included in the special financial regime authorised on 15 April 1975 (RC524).

Transactions made by Government Departments and state entities; Provincial, Municipal and Decentralised entities.

Entities authorised to transact these operations cannot grant credits for these deposits, nor can they accept collateral security or guarantees.

In those cases where as at 10 June 1975 the goods are in transit or in Argentine ports and where payment abroad has not yet been made, exchange insurance can be paid up to 15 July 1975.

Inquiries: OTAR tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 474/476.

Assembling one of ten student consoles which form part of a £35,000 sonar instruction laboratory that has been designed and built for the Chilean Navy by Applied Electronics and Automation Ltd. of Sutton, Surrey. All the panels fitted to the consoles have been fabricated from blue 'Bondene' pvc-clad aluminium made by the Sheet and Film Division of British Industrial Plastics (Turner and Newall Ltd.), Brantham, Essex. The material has also been specified for two similar laboratories which are being built for the navies of Iran and Norway. The laboratory will be used to teach Chilean sonar trainees to identify signals obtained from different classes of ships and submarines and from natural underwater phenomena. Seated at his console, each student will listen to tape recorded signals selected by a punched tape reader. When he correctly identifies a signal by pressing an appropriate answer button, the signal transmitted to his headphones from the tape bank will change.

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Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
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European Community

'The British aim is to strengthen the Community'

The Foreign Secretary's statement to the Council of Ministers

'Our concern will be to make the Community work more effectively for the benefit of all its members and of its peoples.' James Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, made the pledge during his statement to the Council of Ministers in Luxembourg on 24 June.

'The British aim,' he said, 'is to strengthen the Community and to use it as an instrument for good for Member States and the world. You can count on the United Kingdom to do our best to find ways of making contributions towards that end.'

The Referendum

After thanking the Member States and 'all who contributed to the solution of all our problems' during the renegotiation period, Mr. Callaghan referred to the decisive outcome of the referendum, 'It is a vote that has been accepted by all the people of the United Kingdom whether they were originally pro or anti and our legislators have accepted it.' He went on, 'there is no doubt of what I said on 4 June last, that a successful outcome would provide a basis for continuing British membership of a strengthened Community.'

Relations with the outside world

'It is my hope and my intention,' Mr. Callaghan said, 'as far as I have responsibility in this matter, that we shall increasingly see the Nine countries acting as one in their relations with the outside world.' He went on, 'We must in the period immediately ahead concentrate on reaching common positions on relations between developed and developing countries in order to move the world away from confrontation towards constructive dialogue.

'The Community,' he said, 'had a major role to play in the preparation for the seventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly in September. One major aspect of this is the current dialogue about commodities and raw materials. We want to build a new basis for co-operation between the developed and the developing world.'

He added 'there is another important and related field whereby acting together we can promote our common interests in relations between producers and consumers of energy. In considering relations between developed and developing countries, we must also keep in mind the importance of giving effect to our decisions on aid to non-associated states.'

Economic policy

Within the Community, Mr. Callaghan said Britain would be seeking 'more effective consultation and co-ordination in matters of economic policy in order to reduce the impact of the current recession and to pave the way for the renewed expansion of economic activity. We shall be looking for progressive improvement of the Common Agricultural Policy in line with the proposals which have already been made during the current stocktaking. Such changes,' he said, 'which can reduce the cost to the Community and to consumers, will be of benefit to all of the Member States.'

James Callaghan (left) photographed with (left to right) Jean Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister, Francois-Xavier Ortoli, President of the EEC Commission, and Garret Fitzgerald, President of the Council and Irish Foreign Minister, before the start of the Foreign Affairs Council meeting in Luxembourg on 24 June.

Community institutions

On the development of the Community's institutions, Mr. Callaghan said, 'I am very glad to confirm to you that the British Labour Party will shortly be sending representatives to the European Assembly and they will play their full part in that body.' He added, 'I have had conversations with the trade unions and I hope and believe that following our conversations the British trade unions will before long take up their places in the Economic and Social Committee and in other organs of the Community.'

Speaking of the visit to London this week of the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr. Tindemans, he said, 'we shall await with great interest the report that he is due to present at the end of the year' on European political union. I have asked him if he has time to not only talk to members of the Government but talk to many other people in Britain. The minority felt passionately about sovereignty and other problems and in drawing up his report he ought to have regard to that section of opinion. We must have assent if we are to make progress.'

Referring to the proposals which the European Assembly had made for direct elections, he said that he had asked that they should be studied, but pointed out 'there are difficulties for us as for others. I cannot promise we shall be able to put forward an answer in July. Matters are complicated by devolution of powers to Scotland and to Wales and I cannot promise that we will have an early reply but I do not intend to hold this up. We will try to be ready in the autumn.'

He promised that Britain would examine 'with good faith'

and 'with genuine desire to promote practical proposals for strengthening the Community' all the Community institution questions. 'We shall consider practical proposals against the background of our own people and our own people's aspirations. That does not mean that we shall fail to look after our own interests or to defend our point of view any more than other members. My colleagues will know that there are some outstanding issues of concern to us, for instance on the import of New Zealand dairy produce, the question of steel and so on. We shall pursue these questions and try to arrive at constructive solutions.'

Greater unity of thought and policy

He added: 'The best road towards closer partnership among all of us who are Member States is that we tackle the real problems of the world in common. That is the main thing that our work together is about' and 'we shall seize any opportunities which present themselves, taking account of what is and what is not politically and economically possible for each of us, to approach greater unity of thought and policy in all spheres among our countries.'

EEC Social Affairs Council: agreement reached on 40-hour week

Agreement on an EEC Council recommendation for a 40-hour working week and four weeks' annual paid holiday was one of the results of the Community's Social Affairs Council in Luxembourg on 17 June.

The recommendation provides for the application of the principle of the 40-hour week and the introduction of a minimum of four weeks' annual paid holiday (exclusive of public holidays) by 31 December 1978. In both cases there is provision for a later date to be fixed by the parties directly involved.

The Council also agreed a decision to extend the Social Fund to provide assistance with the training and resettlement of young people in the Community. The decision involves opening Article 4 of the Social Fund*, which is available for specific industries and groups directly affected by Community policies, to help young people under 25 years of age who are unemployed or seeking employment. Priority will be given to those seeking employment for the first time.

A further Commission proposal for the co-ordination of employment policies among Member States was also accepted by the Council. The Ministers agreed to strengthen co-operation between the national employment departments of the Nine and the Commission and to work for the implementation of an employment forecasting and research programme.

The Council also agreed to finance a programme of pilot projects and studies on poverty in the Community. The projects, which will be selected by the Commission from applications lodged by Member States or private bodies, will be designed to develop new methods of assisting the poor and contribute towards an understanding of the causes and extent of poverty in the Community.

A draft Commission directive on equality for women in employment, including access to jobs, vocational training and advancement, was discussed but it was decided that further consideration should take place within the Council machinery.

The UK was represented at the Luxembourg Council by Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, John Fraser, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Employment, and Lord Harris, Minister of State at the Home Office.

* An article describing the two types of assistance – 'Article 4' and 'Article 5' – currently provided by the fund appeared in the 18 April 1975 issue of *Trade and Industry*.

COMPROs welcome the Commission's third trade simplification programme

SITPRO, the UK's Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board, in conjunction with the Community's other national simplification bodies – collectively known as the COMPROs – has now drawn up the detailed comments asked for by Commissioner Finn Olav Gundelach on the EEC Commission's third programme* for the simplification of customs procedures and legislation.

Rules of origin

COMPROs were unanimous in welcoming this programme which they saw as a far-reaching measure of simplification. They particularly welcomed the proposals to simplify and harmonise rules of origin and hope to assist the Commission to reach these objectives.

They have already proposed that the present movement certificate – the EUR1 – should be abolished and that there should be a return to the old EFTA system whereby an origin declaration on a commercial invoice is taken as proof of entitlement to preference levels of duty.

Community transit

Measures to simplify the Community transit system, for example the complete abolition of transit documents for goods in free circulation, were also welcomed. But COMPROs have suggested that action should be taken immediately, rather than waiting to the end of the transitional period for full British membership (1977), as currently proposed.

COMPROs seriously question whether the present complicated system of 'T' forms is necessary for justified control purposes and intend to put forward proposals for a simpler system in due course. They feel that action in this area is a necessary prerequisite for achieving a true customs union with the completely free movement of goods.

Tariff nomenclature and computerisation

In two fields – tariff nomenclature and computerisation – COMPROs have advocated closer co-operation with and participation in the work of international bodies, such as the Customs Co-operation Council and the UN regional body, the Economic Commission for Europe.

Both of these bodies are working towards truly international systems and activities, such as the production of an inter-

* A report on the third programme was published in *Trade and Industry* on 16 May 1975.

national harmonised commodity description and coding system suitable for use by customs administrations, international carriers and statisticians and the use of computers in the customs field. For their part, COMPROs have suggested that the Community should be as outward-looking as possible and should not develop purely European systems without regard for other countries' interests and requirements.

CAP legislation

COMPROs also welcomed moves by the Administration of the Customs Union to consider simplifying procedures stemming from the Common Agricultural legislation, and will be studying the problems arising in this sector to see what proposals they can put forward to the Commission.

New EC Legislation

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

The legislation listed below has been published in the Official Journal of the European Communities as indicated against each item. The Official Journal is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408. Other information may be obtained from the reference points given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulations and Decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Live plants and products of the flower growing industry. Decision 75/301/EEC authorising the Member States to approve for marketing reproductive material of certain forest species not complying with the requirements of the Council Directive 66/404/CEE on the marketing of forest reproductive material. (*Official Journal* L144, 5 June 1975)

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 1455/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1280/71 as regards the additional amount to be applied on the buying-in of white sugar by intervention agencies. (*Official Journal* L145, 6 June 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1456/75 on special arrangements for the 1974/75 sugar marketing year under the system of offsetting storage costs for sugar. (*Official Journal* L145, 6 June 1975)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 1457/75 supplementing Regulation (EEC) 1108/68 on detailed rules of application for public storage of skimmed-milk powder. (*Official Journal* L145, 6 June 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1476/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 602/75 as regards the conditions of sale of skimmed-milk powder for supply to developing countries. (*Official Journal* L149, 10 June 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1526/75 by way of derogation from Regulation (EEC) 349/73 as regards the products to be incorporated into concentrated butter. (*Official Journal* L155, 17 June 1975)

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 1477/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 289/71 laying down detailed rules for granting private storage aid for pigmeat. (*Official Journal* L149, 10 June 1975)

Rice. Regulation (EEC) 1484/75 amending Regulation 467/67/EEC as regards processing costs and the value of by-products of the various stages of rice processing. (*Official Journal* L150, 11 June 1975)

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 1527/75 fixing for the marketing year 1975/76 the amounts to be deducted in calculating the guaranteed prices for cereals in the United Kingdom. (*Official Journal* L155, 17 June 1975)

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1528/75 concerning the temporary suspension of the distillation of table wines provided for in Regulation (EEC) 1036/75. (*Official Journal* L155, 17 June 1975)

Seeds. Regulation (EEC) 1546/75 defining the event in which aid in respect of seeds becomes due and payable. (*Official Journal* L157, 19 June 1975)

EEC/GREECE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L153, 13 June 1975, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 1496/75 on the implementation of the provisions adopted under the association between the European Economic Community and Greece in respect of the movement of goods consequent on the extension of the association to the new Member States.

GENERALISED TARIFF PREFERENCE SCHEME: ORIGIN RULES. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L153, 13 June 1975, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 1504/75 on the definition of the concept of originating products for purposes of the application of tariff preferences granted by the European Economic Community in respect of certain products falling within heading 15.07 of the Common Customs Tariff, from developing countries.

Further information. Department of Trade, Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ (tel. 01-215 5750/5713)

COMMON CUSTOMS TARIFF. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L157, 19 June 1975, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 1539/75 amending with effect from 1 July 1975, the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 950/68, on the Common Customs Tariff as follows:

1 At subheading 78.01 A II, the following shall be substituted for footnote b: 'b Up to 31 December 1975 at the latest the duty applicable shall be 4.5 per cent with a minimum of 1.1 units of account and a maximum of 1.32 units of account per 100 kg. net weight'.

2 At subheading 79.01 A, the following shall be substituted for footnote a: 'a Up to 31 December 1975 at the latest the duty applicable shall be 4.5 per cent with a minimum of 1.1 units of account and a maximum of 1.32 units of account per 100 kg. net weight'.

HARMONISATION OF LEGISLATION: Agricultural or forestry tractors. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L147, 9 June 1975, contains the texts of the following Directives.

Directive 75/321/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the steering equipment of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

Directive 75/322/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the suppression of radio interference produced by spark-ignition engines fitted to wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

Directive 75/323/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the power connection fitted on wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors for lighting and light-signalling devices on tools, machinery or trailers intended for agriculture or forestry.

Further information. Department of Industry, Vehicle Division, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (tel. 01-211 3000, ext. 5668).

Aerosol dispensers. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L147, 9 June 1975, contains the text of Directive 75/324/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to aerosol dispensers.

Further information. Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Fair Trading Division 3, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. 01-215 3188).

UK/Spain: interim tariffs pending agreement with Nine

Pending the conclusion of the new agreement between Spain and the enlarged Community, the UK should adopt certain interim tariff arrangements with effect from 10 July this year. These changes are implemented by the Import Duties (Spain) Order 1975 (SI 1975 No. 1005). Copies may be obtained from HMSO price 55p. Since 1 January 1974 the UK has operated a tariff 'standstill' for Spanish goods by continuing to apply the pre-accession or, where it was lower, the transiting third country rate.

Industrial goods

In general tariffs will be reduced by 40 per cent of the 1972 pre-accession rate, but there are some exceptions. For European Coal and Steel Community products under chapter 73, and natural cork under tariff heading 45.01, the pre-accession rates will be replaced by the transiting third country rates of duty, because there is no existing agreement between Spain and the EEC covering these products. For goods set out in List Ia (below) the standstill rates will continue (ie there will be no change). This is because the detailed arrangements which will be included in the new agreement have not yet been settled.

Agricultural goods

In most cases the UK will implement the concessions which will be provided for in the new agreement. They will be applied to the third country transiting rates. The concessions vary from 20 to 80 per cent and cover a wide range of fresh and preserved fruit and vegetables and fruit juices.

However for the products covered by List Ib the standstill rates will continue, again because the detailed arrangements have not been settled.

All agricultural goods *not* subject to a concession will receive full third country treatment.

Origin rules

The origin rules will be as set out in the existing agreement between the Six and Spain. But UK (not other EEC) parts and materials used in manufacture in Spain may be regarded as contributing to Spanish origin for the purpose of qualifying for the preferences described above.

Documentation

Spanish goods will qualify for preferential treatment into the UK, only if they satisfy the origin and consignment rules for goods wholly produced or manufactured in Spain. These are described in paragraphs 6 and 8-13 of Notice No. 816.

Evidence that the goods satisfy the origin rules should take the form of either a movement certificate, A.E.1, or postal form, A.E.2. These should be completed as described in Part Three of Notice No. 816, with the exception of private importations of small value; these are subject to the simplified procedures described in paragraph 16 of the notice.

Paragraphs 18 and 19, concerning olive oil and wine are not yet applicable. Where evidence of consignment is required, it should be provided in the forms described in paragraphs 21–23 of the notice.

Inquiries

These should be addressed to:

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE
1 General Division
Kingsgate House
66–74 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6SJ
Tel. 01-215 3070/5493 (UK tariffs on Imports from Spain), 01-215 5780 (Origin Rules)

2 Commercial Relations and Exports 1
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-215 3707 (General Inquiries)

HM CUSTOMS AND EXCISE
King's Beam House
Mark Lane
London EC3R 7HE
Tel. 01-626 1515 Ext. 2504 (Customs documentations and procedure)

LIST I
Goods for which standstill rates will continue

Tariff heading	Description
a Industrial	
27.10, 27.11A, 27.11BI, 27.12, 27.13B, 27.14	Refined petroleum products
40.11	Rubber tyres, tyre cases, etc.
41.02B	Other bovine cattle leather
41.03BII	Other sheep and lamb skin leather
42.02B	Leather travel goods
42.03	Leather clothing
45.02	Natural cork in blocks
45.03	Articles of natural cork
45.04	Agglomerated cork
51.04	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous)
55.05	Cotton yarn
55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton
56.01A	Synthetic textile fibres
56.05	Yarn of man-made fibres
56.07	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous)
58.04	Woven pile fabrics and cherille fabrics
60.04	Under garments
60.05	Outer garments
61.03	Men's and boys' under garments
62.02	Bed linen
64.01	Rubber footwear
64.02	Leather footwear
68.03	Worked slates
69.07	Unglazed setts, flags and pavings
69.08	Glazed: other setts
73.15	Special steels
73.18	Tubes, pipes and blanks of iron and steel
78.01A	Unwrought lead
79.01A	Unwrought zinc
85.04	Electric accumulators
97.02	Dolls
97.03	Other toys
Processed agricultural products	
17.04B	Chewing gum
17.04C	White chocolate
17.04D	Other sugar confectionery, not containing cocoa
18.06	Chocolate and other good preparations containing cocoa
Chapter 19	Preparations of cereals, flour or starches
21.01AII	Roasted coffee substitutes (except chicory)
21.01BII	Extracts, essences of roasted coffee
21.06AII	Baker's yeast
21.07	Food preparations except those containing no starch or less than 5% by weight of sucrose
22.02B	Lemonade, containing milk fats
29.04CII and III	Mannitol and sorbitol
35.01	Casein, casinates and derivatives
35.02AII	Albumin: other
35.05	Dextrins and dextrin glues
38.12AI	Prepared glazings
b Agricultural	
08.03 ex B	Dried figs in packs of 15 kg. or less
08.04BI	Dried grapes in packs of 15 kg. or less
20.02 ex CII	Tomato concentrate
ex 20.06BII	Mixtures of fruit
ex 20.06BII	Mandarin segments
ex 20.06BII	Apricot pulp
ex 22.05	Certain wines – Malaga, Tarragona, etc.

New Community loan for British Steel

The EEC Commission has approved a further loan to the British Steel Corporation to help boost capacity for equipment needed in the North Sea oilfields.

The £6 million loan will go towards the cost of two new electric arc furnaces and ancillary equipment to replace six open-hearth furnaces at BSC's Clydesdale tube works. The new equipment will increase the production capacity from 250,000 to 360,000 tonnes per annum of large seamless tube and pipe which is required for North Sea oil development.

The latest loan, granted under Article 54 of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty which empowers the Commission to assist the modernisation of the coal and steel industries, brings the total of ECSC loans to British Steel to £74.5 million.

Free service for businessmen

The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.

New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.

The unit's address is: EEC Information Unit, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Tel: 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Temporary suspension of the Common Customs Tariff of the EEC

Review of existing suspensions

The Department of Trade have been notified by the EEC Commission that existing suspensions of the Common Customs Tariff (CCT) of the Community which are due to expire on 31 December 1975 will shortly be reviewed. The suspensions in question are set out in the schedule below and are in operation in the United Kingdom tariff.

Unless objections are raised by all or any of the Member States of the Community, it is the intention that these suspensions should generally be maintained for a further six months, ending on 30 June 1976.

CCT suspended rates are the effective rates for the purposes of the progressive alignment of the UK tariff towards the CCT under the timetable set out in Article 39 of the Treaty of Accession to the EEC. Under Article 41 of that Treaty the UK can, however, alternatively suspend its own duties down to the suspended rate of the CCT, where that rate is lower than the one resulting from the application of Article 39.

United Kingdom producers may object to the continuation of the existing suspensions, where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the Community of Nine, and that their interests as exporters to the original Community of Six, might be affected adversely by the loss of Community preference which a suspension of the CCT entails.

United Kingdom producers who wish to object to the continuation of the suspensions listed in the schedule should provide as much as possible of the following information:

i estimated Community (Nine countries including the UK) demand in 1976;
ii estimated UK demand in 1976;
iii UK production expected to be available for:
  a the UK market in 1976;
  b the rest of the Community in 1976
  c exports to other countries for the same years.

SCHEDULE

Tariff heading	Description	CCT suspended rate of duty
ex 28.21	Chromium oxide (Cr_2O_3) for production of chromium metal	Free
ex 29.16 D	Prostaglandin E_2	Free
ex 29.23 A II	Dinoprost, trometamol salt	Free
ex 29.31 B	5-Fluoro-2-methyl-1-(4-methylthiobenzlidene)-inden-3-ylacetic acid	Free
ex 29.35 Q	1,6-Hexanolactone	6.3%
ex 29.38 B II	D and DL calcium pantothenate	3.5%
ex 29.39 D II	Betamethasonephosphate; betamethosone 17α-valerate, sterile	Free
ex 29.44 C	Cephazoline and its salts	4.8%
ex 29.44 C	Salts of Cephaloridin, of cephalothin and of cephalexin	4.8%
ex 39.01 C III	Polycaprolactone	9.6%
ex 41.02 B	Leather of East India kip, whole, whether or not the heads and legs have been removed, weighing each more than 4.5 kg. net and not more than 8 kg., not further prepared than vegetable tanned, whether or not having undergone further preservative treatment with oil, but obviously unsuitable for immediate use in the manufacture of leather articles	Free
ex 56.01 A	Synthetic textile fibres of aromatic polyamides obtained by polycondensation of *m*-phenylene-diamine and isophthalic acid	Free
ex 70.19 A IV b)	Glass beads of a diameter of less than 0.1 mm. and with a refraction index of 2.26	Free
ex 73.40 B	Integrally forged, rough-turned components with unit weights of more than 150 metric tons or outer diameters of more than 6,000 mm. for reactor pressure vessels	Free
ex 76.03	Aluminium alloy strip in coils containing not less than 18% by weight and not more than 23% by weight of tin and not less than 0.7% by weight and not more than 1.5% by weight of copper as the major alloying elements and having a width of not less than 75 mm. and not more than 230 mm. and a thickness of not less than 3 mm. and not more than 6.5 mm.	Free
ex 88.02 B II c)	Flying machines of an unladen weight exceeding 15,000 kg.	Free

Government Publications in the Midlands

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 258/259 Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2HE

European Communities continued

Proposed new suspensions

Further to the notice appearing in *Trade and Industry* of 13 June 1975, the Department of Trade has now received details of additional proposals for new suspensions of the Common Customs Tariff. These proposals are set out in the schedule below.

As in the case of the first list of proposals for new suspensions of the CCT the Department will want to take account of UK interests in making its views known to the Community of Nine before decisions are taken as to whether these proposed suspensions should be granted. UK producers are entitled to object to the granting of any of these proposed suspensions where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the Community of Nine and that their interests might be affected adversely by the loss or reduction of Community preference on exports to the original Community of Six, or reduced tariff protection in the UK, which a suspension of the CCT would entail.

UK producers who wish to object to the granting of a proposed suspension of the Common Customs Tariff should provide the Department with as much as possible of the following information:

i estimated Community (Nine countries including the UK) demand in 1976;
ii estimated UK demand in 1976;
iii UK production expected to be available for:
  a the UK market in 1976;
  b the rest of the Community in 1976;
  c exports to other countries for the same year.

SCHEDULE

Tariff heading	Description	Proposed CCT suspended rate of duty	Applicant State
ex 07.03 E	Edible fungi, excluding mushrooms, for temporary preservation in brine or in water containing some other additive, but not specially prepared for immediate consumption	4%	Germany
08.05 A II	Almonds	Free	Denmark
ex 28.06	Chlorosulphuric acid	Free	Denmark
ex 29.11 A IV	Methylvaleraldehydes	Free	Denmark
ex 29.16 A 1 b	Lactic acid, 88% synthetic	Free	Denmark
29.23 A II	di (2-dimethylaminoethyl) ether dissolved in dipropylene glycol	Free	Benelux
29.31 B	Tolnaftate	Free	Benelux
ex 29.35 Q	Ethylmethylpyridines	Free	Denmark
	Fluphenazine	Free	Benelux
ex 29.36	Sulphathiazole	Free	Denmark
ex 29.38 B II	Pantothenyl alcohol	Free	Germany
ex 29.39 E	Medroxyprogesterone acetate	Free	Benelux
38.19 G	Niax catalyst A99	Free	Benelux
ex 39.02 C VI	Copolymers solely of allyl alcohol with styrene, which have an acetyl value of not less than 175	Free	Germany
ex 39.03 B V a) 2	Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose	Free	Denmark
ex 68.02 B	Artificially coloured granules and chippings	Free	Benelux

EEC information for businessmen: free booklet

EEC – Your Questions Answered, an 87-page booklet published by the EEC Information Unit, contains answers to businessmen's inquiries on a wide range of EEC subjects. These include trade with EFTA and other countries associated with the Community, customs procedures and documentation, tariffs, market information and non-tariff barriers to trade.

The booklet also provides basic information about the role of the Community institutions and has articles on the ECSC, Euratom and the European Investment Bank. The final section of the booklet is devoted to time-saving reference material including a glossary of abbreviations, lists of publications and 18 pages of useful addresses and contacts in Europe and the UK.

The EEC Information Unit, from which copies of the booklet may be obtained free of charge, was set up specifically to help the businessman wanting facts about the EEC and the way its policy, procedures and legislation could affect his business operations and decisions. Although the Unit's prime responsibility is with those matters which are the concern of the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, it is usually possible to direct an inquirer to sources of specialist advice in other government departments. The address for inquiries or publication requests is the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4301 (6 lines).

Representations

Any representations in respect of the review of existing suspensions or the proposed new suspensions of the CCT, should be made in writing and the required information sent to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66–74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, not later than 18 July 1975 (telephone inquiries: 01-215 5515 (chemicals) and 01-215 3576 (other goods).

Trade with the Overseas Countries and Territories of the EEC

In an article on page 745 of *Trade and Industry* of 27 June 1975, it was stated that new arrangements for trade with the EEC's Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) would enter into force on 1 July. This was incorrect. It is now hoped that the new arrangements will enter into force on 1 August.

The standstill arrangements for which provision was made in the Treaty of Accession will now remain in force until 31 July. They will apply to trade with Bermuda in addition to the OCT.

Further information. Department of Trade, Room 375, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5106.

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 41 The Hayes, Cardiff, CF1 1JW

EEC – your questions answered

Here we publish answers to some of the questions of general interest which businessmen put to the Department of Industry's EEC Information Unit.

The Unit was set up specifically to help the businessman wanting facts about the EEC and the way its policy, procedures and legislation could affect his business operations and decisions. Although the Unit's prime responsibility is with those matters which are the concern of the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, it is usually possible to direct an inquirer to sources of specialist advice in other government departments. It can be contacted by a telephone call to 01-215 4301 (six lines), or by writing to the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Q. I understand that money is available from the European Regional Development Fund for investment projects in regions of the UK. How do I apply for aid from the Fund?

A. The European Regional Development Fund (RDF), which was formally set up by means of a Regulation adopted by the Council of Ministers in March 1975, has a budget of 1,300 million units of account (about £540 million) over the three years 1975-7. After deducting our contribution to the fund through the Community Budget the UK will receive about £60 million.

Financial aid from the Fund is to be allocated in consultation and under the direction of national governments and there is no question of establishing a separate administrative system for distribution of regional aid from the RDF. Thus, formal applications for RDF assistance must be made through the Industrial Expansion teams at the Department of Industry in the same way that applications are currently submitted for projects in the Areas for Expansion.

The Fund is designed to increase the total resources available for development expenditure in the Community's regions without interfering in any way with regional policy strategies of individual Member States. Each country remains free to implement the policy measures which are deemed appropriate to meet the needs of their priority areas.

Article 3 of the RDF Regulation explains which areas may benefit from the Fund. In the UK assistance will be available in the Intermediate, Development and Special Development Areas and in Northern Ireland, though emphasis will be placed on the DAs, SDAs and Northern Ireland.

Eligible projects for assistance from the Fund are described in Article 4 of the Regulation as:

a investments in industrial, handicraft, or service activities which are economically sound and which benefit from State regional aids, provided that at least ten new jobs are created or existing jobs are maintained. In the latter case, the investments should fall within a framework of a conversion or restructuring plan to ensure that the undertaking concerned is competitive. Preference shall, however, be given to operations which both maintain existing jobs and create new jobs.

Service activities qualifying for assistance shall be those concerned with tourism and those which have a choice of location. Such activities should have a direct impact on the development of the region and on the level of employment.

b investments in infrastructures directly linked with the development of activities covered by (a) above and totally or partially financed wholly or in part by public authorities or by any other agency responsible on a similar basis as a public authority, for the creation of infrastructures.

c investments in infrastructures covered in Article 3(2) of the Council Directive on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas, provided that the less-favoured area in question corresponds to or is located within one of the regions or areas covered by Article 3 of this Regulation.

The Council Regulation establishing a Regional Development Fund is published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, Volume 18 L 73, which can be obtained from HMSO, price 42p.

Queries concerning financial incentives for development projects in the UK regions should be addressed to the Industrial Expansion Team, Department of Industry, Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QU, or to the IET at any of the Regional Offices of the Department of Industry.

Q. As an export manager I spend a lot of time in the other EEC countries. Would I be eligible for free medical treatment if I needed it?

A. Under EEC Regulation 1408/71 citizens of the Community who are travelling in other member countries and who need immediate medical treatment are entitled to such treatment on the same basis as nationals. In effect this means free treatment in the UK, the Irish Republic, Italy, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands, and a refund of at least 70 per cent of the cost of treatment in France, Belgium and Luxembourg. The provisions of the regulation apply to people working for an employer and their dependents, old age pensioners, widows and unemployed people seeking work. They do not apply to self-employed persons and their dependents, but in Denmark all UK nationals are entitled to medical treatment under a bilateral agreement.

UK citizens who are eligible and intend to visit an EEC country other than Denmark and the Irish Republic for a business trip or on holiday should apply to an office of the Department of Health and Social Security for Form CM1, which they should complete and send to the local office nearest their home address. They will then receive another form – Form E111 – entitling them to medical benefits. In Denmark treatment is provided on production of a UK passport, and in the Irish Republic visitors will be asked to sign a simple statement.

It is essential that travellers should take Form E111 when they go to the countries which require it. In some countries they will receive treatment from a doctor or hospital after producing E111 beforehand to the appropriate insurance institution which administers social security benefits in that area. In others it is necessary to pay the doctor or the hospital, and then recover the cost or part of the cost by presenting the form and payment receipts to the insurance institution.

If sickness or accident renders a person unfit for work he may receive the daily benefits provided for under UK regulations. The worker must inform the insurance institution at the place where he is staying by producing a medical certificate and he must be examined by a medical adviser of that institution. The institution will then request cash payment of the benefits from DHSS. The worker will be paid the benefits by international money order or through the institution where he is staying.

Further information, including the addresses of the national insurance institutions providing medical benefits, is given in leaflet SA28 which can be obtained from any local office of the Department of Health and Social Security.

If frequent trips are made abroad, an E111, valid for a period of six months, can be obtained on application to the Department of Health and Social Security, Overseas Group, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE98 1YX.

Q. Where can I obtain a copy of the Lomè Convention?

A. The complete text of the Convention is reproduced in a special issue, No 31, March 1975, of *The Courier*, a magazine published every two months by the Commission of the European Communities, giving information on relations between the EEC and the 46 developing countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (the ACP States). This issue also contains articles giving background details of the negotiations, the signing ceremony, trade co-operation, stabilisation of export receipts, industrial co-operation, financial and technical co-operation and the institutions. It can be obtained from the European Communities Information Service, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office is printing the Convention and copies should be available later in the year.

Inquiries should be addressed to the Department of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports Division 1, Room 375, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5106.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,365	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	439	324	68	−23	698	−11	709
1971	101	103	100	94	103	76	−126	52	−4	1,052	273	778
1972	104	109	106	85	116	−54	−205	48	3	82	−683	765
1973	110	114	110	90	121	696	374	32	242	−1,113	−2,301	1,188
1974	110	114	108	100	112	337	468	47	−124	−3,771	−5,259	1,488
1972 2nd qtr.	104	108	106	84	115	−31	−106	1	38	123	−67	190
3rd qtr.	104	110	106	82	116	−7	−42	6	−13	−109	−284	175
4th qtr.	107	111	108	83	123	18	7	24	−6	−17	−209	192
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	112	89	127	277	146	11	32	−184	−354	170
2nd qtr.	109	112	107	86	113	188	61	−9	163	−209	−401	192
3rd qtr.	110	114	111	91	120	100	68	6	22	−229	−569	340
4th qtr.	110	114	111	94	125	131	99	24	25	−491	−977	486
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	112	99	111	−235	−100	8	−73	−935	−1,279	344
2nd qtr.	110	112	105	100	107	208	138	42	11	−955	−1,316	361
3rd qtr.	112	114	106	99	118	257	299	−27	−28	−830	−1,210	380
4th qtr.	111	116	107	103	112	107	130	23	−34	−1,051	−1,454	403
1975 1st qtr.		116 p		94	99		47	−29	−65	−342	−716	374
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+3.2	+2.7	−1.8	−0.9	−5.5							
on a year earlier	+1.4	+2.2	−4.1	+1.8	−11.9							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages									totals	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,801	8,528
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,147	9,830
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304	11,512	13,813
1974	106.4	107.9	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.5	572+	2.5+	298+	15,589	20,848
1973 3rd qtr.	110.7	111.5	110.6	143	180.2†	9.2	150.9	124.2	118.5	555	2.4	334	2,991	3,560
4th qtr.	109.5	110.5	112.0	119	186.8†	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	494	2.2	361	3,048	4,025
1974 1st qtr.	103.7	106.0	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	546	2.4	286	3,500	4,779
2nd qtr.	108.0	109.6	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	311	3,900	5,216
3rd qtr.	108.7	110.3	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	143.9	592	2.6	306	4,161	5,371
4th qtr.	105.3	106.1	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,029	5,482
1975 1st qtr.	104.5	105.5	111.6	106	122.0	20.3	220.6	176.0	163.2	701	3.1	..	4,571	5,287
2nd qtr.										814	3.6	166		
1974 July	109.3	110.8	109.2	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.8	576	2.5	317	1,337	1,769
Aug.	109.1	111.2	111.4	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.5	597	2.6	301	1,378	1,787
Sept.	107.7	109.0	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.3	603	2.7	301	1,446	1,816
Oct.	106.7	107.1	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.7	607	2.7	294	1,347	1,841
Nov.	106.2	107.3	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.8	153.9	613	2.7	273	1,296	1,896
Dec.	102.9	103.8	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	158.0	..	..	..	1,386	1,745
1975 Jan.	105.0	106.8	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.7	678 e	3.0	..	1,571	1,856
Feb.	105.0	106.4	112.3	113	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	162.0	705	3.1	192	1,451	1,765
Mar.	103.4	103.3	109.4	97	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	722	3.2	186	1,549	1,666
Apr.	102.5	103.2	120.2	89	129.1	21.7	222.8 p	182.3 p	169.2	760	3.3	173	1,364	1,655
May			103.0 p	87	134.5	25.0	225.2 p	187.3 p	175.2	817	3.6	156	1,586 p	1,602 p
June										864	3.8	141		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−1.0	−1.6	−1.0	−11.7	+8.1		+1.1	+6.3	+7.0	+16.0		..	+2	−8.5
on a year earlier	−2.0	−3.6	+2.8	−11.4	+22.5		+4.0	+25.4	+32.8	+47.3		−49.5	+17	−5.5

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100.
+ Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate

Energy trends: petrol product demand in April still down but nearer last year's level

Petrol products deliveries in April, although 1½ per cent lower than in April 1974, came closer to last year's level of demand than in the first three months of 1975.

However, output of finished petroleum products from refineries in April was some 2 million tons (around 22 per cent) lower than in the same month last year.

The June issue of *Energy Trends*, the Department of Energy's statistical bulletin, says that net arrivals of crude oil in March were 1 million tons less than in February and nearly 4 million tons less than in March 1974.

Energy consumption during April

Measured at an average weekly rate, energy consumption in April was marginally lower than in March. But seasonally adjusted figures show that April consumption was the highest since last October. *Energy Trends* points out, however, that too much should not be read into one month's figures.

Coal output levelling off

Deep-mined coal production during May, measured at a weekly average rate, was higher than in April but substantially below the levels reached in February and March. Productivity was at a level similar to those in recent months.

Undistributed and distributed coal stocks increased as the recent high levels of coal consumption fell. Power station stocks increased by nearly 1.2 million tons to 15.05 million tons.

Electricity generation uses less oil

Oil consumption at power stations in April was nearly 12 per cent less than in April 1974 although the proportion of oil in the total fuel mix rose slightly compared with the previous two months.

While electricity consumption fell seasonally in April, it was 5½ per cent higher than in April 1974. The April 1974 figure was affected by the lingering effect of three-day-week working in industry which was holding electricity consumption down.

Petrol product deliveries rise

Inland deliveries of petroleum products in April, although 1½ per cent lower than in April 1974, approached much more closely to last year's level of demand than was the case in the first three months of the year.

Much of the higher demand was concentrated in the oils used for central heating – burning oil and gas/diesel oil – and on fuel oil. This may have been due to the replenishing of customers' depleted stock levels rather than any increase in the underlying demand for these products.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	● fifty-three week
p provisional	period

Notes

Overall energy consumption during the ten years 1963-73 grew at an average rate of a little over 2 per cent a year, on a primary fuel input basis.

Energy Trends is prepared by the Economics and Statistics Division of the Department of Energy. Copies are available free from: Information Division, Department of Energy, Room 1260, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

Retail sales in Northern Ireland in April

The seasonally adjusted index of retail sales in Northern Ireland in April was 207 (1965 = 100), 26 per cent more than in April 1974.

After allowing for price changes, the total volume of sales in April, showed an increase of 3 per cent compared with the corresponding period last year.

The seasonally adjusted index numbers of the value of sales in April and percentage increases on a year earlier for the main groups of traders are shown in the table. More detailed information can be obtained from the Department of Commerce, Index of Retail Sales, 21 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BZ (tel. Belfast (0232) 28081, ext. 140).

	April 1975		
Sales by	Sales in 1965 – £m	Seasonally adjusted value index numbers 1965 = 100	Percentages increases
All kinds of business	219	207	26
Food shops	97	229	21
Non-food shops	122	190	33
Of which:			
Clothing and footwear shops	36	178	24
Durable goods shops	21	213	55
Miscellaneous non-food shops	43	208	28
Department and general stores	22	154	35

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National Food Survey Household food consumption in the first quarter (January-March, 1975)

The main results of the National Food Survey for the first quarter of 1975 are summarised in the accompanying tables. The estimates are derived from records provided by a sample of 1,998 households throughout Great Britain.

Average expenditure on food bought for consumption in the home (excluding sweets and soft drinks) in the first quarter of 1975 rose by 21p (6.4 per cent) compared with the previous quarter to £3.46 per person per week, the main increases being on meat and meat products (7½p), vegetables (4p), milk (3p), and sugar (2½p). The increase in food expenditure was commensurate with that in the general level of food prices and there was no change in the overall real value of food purchases per head. Compared with the first quarter of 1974, when restrictions on fuel and power supplies had affected food consumption and expenditure patterns, expenditure rose by 55p (18.9 per cent) while the general level of food prices paid by housewives rose by 15.1 per cent.

Household consumption of liquid milk was fully maintained in the first quarter of 1975 at 4.83 pints per person per week, but a slight decrease was recorded in purchases of condensed milk. Average consumption of cheese reached a new high level of 3.90 oz., of which 2.45 oz. was Cheddar type, 1.05 oz. other hard cheeses, 0.15 oz. soft cheeses, and 0.25 oz. processed cheese. The displacement of margarine by butter over the past few years was reversed in the first quarter of 1975 when the average price paid by housewives for butter rose from 23.60 per lb. in the fourth quarter of 1974 to 26.4p and that for margarine rose from 22.2p to 24.6p.

Average consumption of butter fell from 5.93 oz. to 5.63 oz. while that of margarine rose from 2.54 oz. to 2.63 oz. Purchases of other fats were fully maintained. The average price paid by housewives for eggs was 36.8p per dozen, 2.4p cheaper than in the previous quarter, and consumption rose from 3.82 to 4.12 eggs per person per week. Household purchases of sugar reached a new low level of 10.1 oz. per person per week compared with 11.0 oz. in the previous quarter, but actual consumption might have been greater because of drawings on household stocks; the average price paid was 14.2p per lb. compared with 9.3p. Consumption of preserves was fully maintained at 2.83 oz. per person per week.

Beef supplies continued to increase in the first quarter of 1975 and household purchases rose from 8.30 oz. per person per week in the previous quarter to 9.11 oz., the highest level recorded for seven years. In pensioner households[a] benefiting from the beef token scheme there was, however, an increase from 10.43 oz. to 13.23 oz. per person per week in beef consumption, largely offset by a decrease in lamb. Average purchases of pork were fully maintained at 2.77 oz., as were those of bacon and ham at 4.91 oz., but consumption of lamb fell from 4.65 oz. to 4.18 oz. There was a significant decrease in purchases

TABLE 1 Estimates of average household food consumption

oz per person per week (a)

	Year 1973	Year 1974	1st quarter 1974	4th quarter 1974	1st quarter 1975
Liquid milk (pints)	4.75	4.74	4.63	4.80	4.83
Other milk (eq. pints)	0.38	0.35	0.33	0.35	0.27
Cheese	3.75	3.74	3.54	3.72	3.90
Butter	5.24	5.61	5.37	5.93	5.63
Margarine	3.03	2.60	2.81	2.45	2.63
Lard and compound fats	1.83	1.82	1.91	1.88	1.92
Eggs: purchases (number)	4.11	3.94	4.01	3.70	3.92
consumption (number)	4.23	4.09	4.06	3.82	4.12
Preserves	2.51	2.47	2.33	2.78	2.83
Sugar	13.69	13.03	14.06	11.04	10.08
Beef and veal	6.31	7.41	7.24	8.30	9.11
Mutton and lamb	4.44	4.11	3.35	4.65	4.18
Pork	3.00	3.20	3.05	2.76	2.77
Bacon and ham, uncooked	4.41	4.18	4.07	3.93	3.95
Bascon and ham, cooked (including canned)	0.93	0.93	0.72	0.92	0.96
Poultry and cooked chicken	6.09	5.18	4.69	4.88	5.22
Other cooked meat (not canned)	0.58	0.62	0.58	0.51	0.50
Other canned meat	2.45	2.09	2.15	1.80	2.02
Offals	1.17	1.05	1.12	1.08	1.29
Sausages, uncooked	3.41	3.50	3.55	3.49	3.07
Other meat products:					
meat pies and sausage rolls (ready-to-eat)	0.75	0.64	0.61	0.64	0.77
all other (not frozen)	2.24	2.24	2.33	2.16	2.21
Fish, fresh and processed	2.97	2.76	2.67	2.79	2.97
Canned fish	0.68	0.60	0.50	0.67	0.58
Fish and fish products, frozen	1.06	0.96	1.11	0.82	1.01
Fresh green vegetables	12.48	12.70	9.62	13.50	11.30
Tomatoes, fresh	3.82	3.74	1.88	3.34	2.15
Other fresh vegetables	10.11	10.20	10.63	12.63	11.44
Frozen vegetables	2.78	2.66	2.76	2.36	2.91
Canned tomatoes	0.91	0.94	1.02	0.89	1.11
Canned peas	2.76	2.76	2.84	2.37	2.69
Canned beans	3.78	3.58	3.67	3.75	3.48
Potatoes (excluding processed)					
purchases	43.26	41.58	45.99	41.73	46.01
consumption	45.93	45.66	47.69	48.45	49.07
Citrus fruit	5.24	4.58	6.16	3.42	6.97
Bananas	2.95	2.86	2.37	2.97	2.68
Apples	6.66	7.08	6.74	8.20	6.54
All other fresh fruit	3.05	3.27	1.45	2.68	1.51
Canned fruit	4.49	3.70	3.49	3.76	3.28
Dried fruit, nuts and fruit and nut products	1.19	1.20	1.01	1.97	1.02
Flour	5.25	5.30	4.84	6.88	5.75
White bread	27.58	28.24	27.56	27.04	26.99
Brown, wholewheat and wholemeal bread	2.76	2.64	2.49	2.69	3.12
Other bread	3.08	2.62	2.60	2.39	2.61
Buns, scones and teacakes	1.07	0.94	1.05	1.06	1.36
Cakes and pastries	3.74	3.51	3.18	3.77	3.12
Chocolate biscuits	1.25	1.12	1.20	1.13	0.95
Other biscuits	4.57	4.51	4.06	4.84	4.36
Breakfast cereals	2.95	2.88	2.86	2.80	2.93
Oatmeal and oat products	0.46	0.53	0.62	0.70	0.60
Canned milk puddings	1.72	1.57	1.70	1.39	1.60
Tea	2.16	2.24	2.20	2.30	2.22
Instant coffee	0.47	0.51	0.49	0.56	0.52
Canned coups	3.58	3.46	4.26	3.54	3.80
Pickles and sauces	1.57	1.55	1.51	1.61	1.60

(a) Except where otherwise stated.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

of sausages to 3.07 oz. per person per week, but this was more than offset by increased consumption of poultry, offals and some meat products. Expenditure on meat, meat products and poultry averaged £1.11 per person per week and accounted for about one-third of expenditure on food for consumption in the home. Consumption of fresh white fish showed a small increase in the first quarter but this was largely at the expense of canned fish. The rather low figure of 0.82 oz. recorded in Table 1 for frozen fish and frozen fish products in the previous quarter should be discounted as there is now reason to believe that sampling variation caused it to be understated.

Consumption of fresh potatoes was fully maintained at 49.1 oz. per person per week and there was no marked change in consumption of potato products; expenditure on the latter averaged 3.91p per person per week compared with 7.89p for fresh potatoes. There were the usual seasonal decreases in consumption of other fresh vegetables with offsetting increases for processed vegetables. The seasonal increase in imports of oranges was reflected in increased household purchases of citrus fruits which, together with increased consumption of rhubarb, offset seasonal decreases in consumption of apples, pears and other fresh fruit and of fruit products.

Purchases of bread, which had been affected by exceptional circumstances throughout 1974 (restricted fuel supplies and strike action), increased slightly: it is not yet possible to determine whether the interruption in 1974 to the long-term downward trend in bread consumption is continuing. There were decreases in purchases of most kinds of flour confectionery but little change in consumption of other cereal foods. Average purchases of tea and of instant coffee were both a little less than in the fourth quarter of 1974.

In Table 3, the energy value and nutrient content of these household food purchases are compared with recommended intakes. Each value would have been about 3 per cent higher but for the introduction in 1975 of new relative weightings for the nutritional importance of each meal of the day. Compared with the whole of 1974, the intakes of nutrients were little changed apart from a reduction in energy value (largely the result of the decrease in sugar purchases), the seasonal decline in vitamin C, and an increase in vitamin A. Although household food alone provided less energy than the total recommended, substantial contributions are being made by foods not recorded in the Survey – especially alcoholic drinks, some snacks, and sweets and chocolates. For households with four or more children, many of the averages for the year ended March, 1975, were as high as any recorded over four consecutive quarters for nearly two years.

TABLE 2 Estimates of average household food expenditure

per person per week

	Year 1973	Year 1974	1st quarter 1974	4th quarter 1974	1st quarter 1975
Total household food expenditure	£2.74	£3.10	£2.91	£3.25	£3.46
	p	p	p	p	p
Liquid milk	25.72	22.88	25.27	22.88	25.80
Other milk	2.73	3.06	2.52	3.50	2.95
Cheese	7.93	8.77	7.91	9.29	9.93
Butter	6.92	7.78	7.23	8.76	9.27
Margarine	2.69	3.13	2.95	3.39	4.04
Lard and compound cooking fats	1.25	1.94	1.78	2.23	2.50
Eggs	11.01	12.31	14.02	12.09	12.02
Preserves	2.13	2.54	2.20	3.17	3.84
Sugar	4.19	5.23	4.60	6.41	8.95
Beef and veal	21.92	26.62	26.63	28.75	32.98
Mutton and lamb	11.15	11.68	9.91	13.13	12.09
Pork	8.06	9.01	9.30	8.67	8.99
Bacon and ham, uncooked	12.35	13.82	13.12	14.51	14.43
Bacon and ham, cooked (including canned)	3.91	4.58	3.58	4.56	4.86
Poultry and cooked chicken	9.47	9.16	8.26	9.11	10.61
Other cooked meat (not canned)	1.89	2.44	2.12	2.25	2.18
Other canned meat	5.19	5.38	5.00	4.98	5.53
Offals	2.59	2.73	2.81	2.86	3.53
Sausages, uncooked	5.63	6.56	6.45	6.75	6.24
Other meat products:					
meat pies and sausage rolls (ready-to-eat)	1.24	1.29	1.16	1.33	1.74
all others (not frozen)	4.57	5.28	5.24	5.16	5.67
Fish, fresh and processed	7.29	8.38	7.85	8.74	9.73
Canned fish	2.01	2.26	1.79	2.71	2.48
Fish and fish products, frozen	2.62	2.88	3.28	2.41	3.04
Fresh green vegetables	4.81	5.58	4.95	5.22	5.48
Tomatoes, fresh	3.94	4.23	2.85	3.00	3.98
Other fresh vegetables	4.89	5.54	5.01	6.31	6.56
Frozen vegetables	2.67	2.91	2.86	2.80	3.62
Canned tomatoes	0.57	0.87	0.86	0.90	1.11
Canned peas	1.26	1.59	1.47	1.58	1.88
Canned beans	1.85	2.56	2.26	2.92	2.83
Potatoes (excluding processed)	6.82	7.92	6.52	7.29	7.89
Citrus fruit	2.90	3.03	3.58	2.66	4.62
Bananas	1.86	2.18	1.70	2.32	2.29
Apples	4.08	4.32	3.80	4.45	5.08
All other fresh fruit	2.08	2.54	1.08	2.10	1.26
Canned fruit	3.37	3.66	2.98	4.23	3.77
Dried fruit, nuts and fruit and nut products	1.74	2.23	1.75	3.84	2.10
Flour	1.42	2.13	1.76	2.77	2.32
White bread	11.32	14.69	14.02	14.29	15.16
Brown, wholewheat and wholemeal bread	1.46	1.78	1.61	1.85	2.17
Other bread	2.83	3.14	2.92	2.93	3.35
Buns, scones and teacakes	1.21	1.36	1.35	1.59	2.14
Cakes and pastries	5.94	6.95	5.74	8.08	7.16
Chocolate biscuits	2.34	2.79	2.53	3.22	2.98
Other biscuits	4.82	5.98	4.62	7.41	7.24
Breakfast cereals	2.94	3.70	3.27	4.01	4.43
Oatmeal and oat products	0.28	0.45	0.48	0.62	0.59
Canned milk puddings	0.78	0.85	0.83	0.86	1.06
Tea	4.79	5.49	4.89	5.93	5.76
Instant coffee	3.24	3.83	3.39	4.64	4.34
Canned soups	1.97	2.26	2.54	2.67	3.13
Pickles and sauces	1.51	1.77	1.59	2.06	2.18
Other foods	19.97	23.52	22.54	24.95	25.93

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

TABLE 3 Nutritional value of household food as a percentage of recommended intakes (a) (b)

	National averages					Households with four or more children			
	Year 1973	Year 1974	1st quarter 1974	4th quarter 1974	1st quarter 1975	Year 1973	Year 1974	Averages of the January-March quarters in the three most recent years	Averages for year ended March 1975
Energy	104	101	100	103	95	94	95	91	94
Protein	124	123	121	126	121	109	112	109	113
Calcium	193	192	187	187	186	158	163	161	165
Iron	118	108	106	112	105	100	95	97	95
Thiamin	134	125	124	127	122	130	125	124	126
Riboflavin	132	129	127	132	127	127	127	128	129
Nicotinic acid equivalent	193	189	186	195	186	180	185	182	188
Vitamin C	189	181	151	178	155	158	159	131	163
Vitamin A (retinol equivalent)	190	183	184	194	199	172	172	181	177
Vitamin D (c)	89	83	80	83	79	79	70	68	70

(a) Department of Health and Social Security. *Recommended Intakes of Nutrients for the United Kingdom* Reports on Public Health and Medical Subjects, No. 120, HMSO, 1969.
(b) All values make allowance for wastage in the home of 10 per cent of the edible portion of food bought, and for expected losses of nutrients during cooking.
(c) The Survey does not evaluate welfare and pharmaceutical sources of this (or any other) vitamin. Furthermore, most adults need no dietary Vitamin D, since they obtain all they need from the action of sunlight on the skin.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

In the three months ended March 1975 deliveries were estimated to be 5 per cent lower on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis, than in the three months ended December 1974. Net new orders were 32 per cent lower than in the previous three months, while at the end of March orders on hand were 26 per cent down on the December 1974 level. The index of production in the three months ended March 1975 was 2 per cent higher than in the three months ended December 1974.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumer expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor Production series under the referecne PQ 450.

The table below is compiled from the results of the monthly and quarterly inquiries which started at the beginning of 1971 and the KS inquiry which they superseded. Linkage factors spanning the fourth quarter 1970 and the first quarter 1971 have been calculated from matching samples of firms contributing to both the old and new inquiries and the KS results adjusted to provide a single, broadly comparable series. Since the linking factors cover only two quarters, however, the amendment back data for 1966-70 should be interpreted with caution.

The index of production is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). The movements shown by the index numbers will frequently differ from those shown by the absolute figures of pairage and value which relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC.

In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

Index of production: Orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of production 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)			Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs
1966		33.6			..			16.4			
1967		37.8			16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6			17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6			15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9			16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5		55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5		59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2		85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974 p	108	44.9		79.5	14.6		31.2	14.7		31.6	18.0
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1973 1st quarter	105	36.2	34.9	62.4	18.1	15.4	29.6	15.9	15.5	28.7	18.7
2nd quarter	108	45.8	41.8	86.5	18.0	18.1	34.0	14.9	15.8	25.9	20.6
3rd quarter	110	40.6	50.7	73.9	13.7	18.2	25.0	15.5	15.2	29.2	16.3
4th quarter	111	46.2	51.2	85.2	18.4	16.5	33.6	16.5	16.3	29.8	16.5
1974 1st quarter	101	52.2	51.8	89.0	15.9	14.0	30.7	13.9	13.8	29.4	13.6
2nd quarter	112	51.9	47.7	95.1	14.3	14.0	32.1	14.4	15.3	30.0	19.4
3rd quarter	113	41.6	49.8	74.7	12.0	15.7	27.6	15.4	14.9	34.3	16.4
4th quarter p	104	44.9	49.3	79.5	16.1	14.8	34.2	15.0	15.0	32.6	18.0
1975 1st quarter p	106	35.0	36.3	61.5	11.1	10.0	30.1	14.4	14.3	36.1	18.3
1973 April	110	41.0	36.6	75.2	19.5	17.2	38.8	14.8	15.4	25.9	
May	106	45.4	37.7	86.7	20.1	17.3	38.6	15.6	16.2	27.0	
June	107	45.8	41.8	86.5	14.5	19.7	24.6	14.1	15.7	24.9	
July	110	42.7	44.1	76.6	11.9	17.7	17.4	15.0	15.5	27.3	
August	113	41.3	46.8	75.2	14.0	18.2	27.9	15.4	15.5	29.3	
September	109	40.6	50.7	73.9	15.4	18.6	29.7	16.1	14.7	31.0	
October	109	45.6	54.7	81.3	24.4	19.8	42.7	19.4	15.8	35.4	
November	114	49.1	55.3	92.5	21.5	17.3	43.2	17.9	16.7	32.0	
December	109	46.2	51.2	85.2	9.2	12.3	14.7	12.1	16.4	22.0	
1974 January	98	46.5	50.6	86.4	12.8	12.0	27.1	12.5	12.6	25.9	
February	98	50.8	53.4	88.0	17.4	16.1	29.3	13.1	13.3	27.6	
March	108	52.2	51.8	89.0	17.6	13.8	35.7	16.1	15.4	34.7	
April	114	55.2	51.8	92.4	18.4	15.4	35.0	15.5	15.4	31.6	
May	106	55.9	49.9	101.3	15.3	13.2	38.9	14.6	15.1	30.1	
June	116	51.9	47.7	95.1	9.3	13.3	22.3	13.2	15.5	28.5	
July	119	47.6	48.6	83.2	11.4	16.3	23.2	15.6	15.4	35.1	
August	113	43.0	46.8	75.9	10.0	13.6	24.6	14.6	15.4	31.8	
September	106	41.6	49.8	74.7	14.6	17.1	34.9	16.0	14.0	36.1	
October p	99	39.9	48.4	77.8	15.7	12.8	40.9	17.4	14.2	37.8	
November p	108	47.7	53.0	88.9	23.8	20.2	45.0	16.0	15.6	33.9	
December p	105	44.9	49.3	79.5	8.8	11.3	16.8	11.6	15.1	26.2	
1975 January p	111	37.9	41.7	69.8	7.3	6.8	26.2	14.3	14.3	35.9	
February p	108	32.6	35.5	61.5	9.4	8.7	28.8	14.7	15.0	37.0	
March p	101	35.0	36.3	61.5	16.6	14.4	35.4	14.3	13.6	35.4	

Government Publications in the West

from

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Wine Street, Bristol, BS1 2BQ

Sales by wholesale textile houses

Sales by wholesale textile houses in April showed an increase of 7 per cent on a year earlier, compared with an increase of 15 per cent in February and a decrease of 3 per cent in March.

The value of stocks at the end of April was 8 per cent higher than a year earlier.

TABLE 1 Total sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	*−3*	..	..
1967	104	*−5*	..	..
1968	108	*4*	..	..
1969	103	*−5*	..	..
1970	107	*4*	..	..
1971	115	*8*	..	..
1972	121	*5*	..	..
1973	134	*11*	..	..
1974	147	*9*	..	..
1972 3rd quarter	123	*7*	154	*4*
4th quarter	149	*6*	169	*12*
1973 1st quarter	120	*18*	184	*12*
2nd quarter	123	*11*	171	*17*
3rd quarter	130	*6*	173	*12*
4th quarter	163	*10*	204	*21*
1974 1st quarter	134	*12*	189	*3*
2nd quarter	131	*7*	202	*18*
3rd quarter	148	*13*	194	*12*
4th quarter	173	*6*	198	*−3*
1975 1st quarter	143	*7*	219	*16*
1974 April	139	*5*	180	*11*
May	123	*8*	206	*19*
June	132	*9*	202	*18*
July	117	*9*	205	*19*
August	141	*13*	207	*15*
September	185	*16*	194	*12*
October	206	*12*	192	*18*
November	156	*1*	222	*10*
December	158	*5*	198	*−3*
1975 January	99	*18*	205	*15*
February	155	*15*	213	*16*
March	176	*−3*	219	*16*
April	149	*7*	195	*8*

TABLE 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks‡
	April 1975	Jan.-April 1975	April 1975
Women's knitted outwear, blouses and skirts	−13	5	−16
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	53	20	22
Women's underwear	−5	12	40
Women's hose and children's socks	−15	−8	15
Women's millinery	7	8	−5
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	13	4	6
Children's wear	−18	−10	−11
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	−2	4	47
Gloves	−17	−18	12
Piece-goods and nets	−3	3	−52
Household texiles	5	—	−25
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	21	16	15
Boots and shoes	−10	−3	−3
Total†	7	8	8

† Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Notes

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, the Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (tel. 01-580 2902).

The metric change

Going Metric is the quarterly bulletin of the Metrication Board. As the metric change is taking place around us *Going Metric* provides information of what is happening in Government, in industry, in education. *Going Metric* is free from the Information Office, J Metrication Board, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE.

Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries

In the three months ended March 1975, deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 2 per cent higher than in the preceding three months. Net new orders were 9 per cent higher and orders-on-hand at the end of March were 2 per cent below the end December 1974 level. (These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying table.)

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
1974 p	138		113		113	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 2nd quarter	175	157	136	129	116	119
3rd quarter	150	158	102	118	115	117
4th quarter	155	155	129	117	120	118
1974 1st quarter	164	171	111	116	107	106
2nd quarter	171	156	122	115	113	115
3rd quarter	135	146	95	109	114	116
4th quarter p	138	141	123	112	116	114
1975 1st quarter p	133	138	114	122	114	117
1973 April	155	159	138	136	120	121
May	169	150	141	118	112	117
June	175	157	129	133	117	119
July	161	157	90	117	111	117
August	157	161	97	122	103	116
September	150	158	118	113	130	118
October	159	159	165	129	137	120
November	164	154	141	115	128	120
December	155	155	81	108	95	115
1974 January	166	165	96	111	92	106
February	169	174	122	130	108	103
March	164	171	116	106	122	108
April	171	179	133	130	115	115
May	182	164	134	112	108	112
June	171	156	100	103	117	119
July	154	153	84	110	111	116
August	142	148	85	107	104	117
September	135	146	115	110	128	116
October p	135	138	142	111	134	116
November p	145	139	146	119	123	116
December p	138	141	81	107	91	110
1975 January p	136	136	100	116	102	118
February p	132	136	119	127	123	117
March p	133	138	122	123	118	115

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The Census of Production reports and the Census of Distribution reports (published as Business Monitors SD 10 to SD 23) are available on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

A library for exporters

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Census of employment: results for 1974

The total number of employees in employment in Great Britain in June 1974 was 22,297,000 – 13,364,000 males and 8,933,000 females. This is shown in the census of employment results published by the Department of Employment.

Overall employment increased by 114,000 compared with June 1973, considerably less than the rise of 533,000 recorded in the previous year.

However, this small overall change conceals marked differences as between males and females and between full-time and part-time workers:

i There were 229,000 more female employees and 114,000 fewer male employees.

ii There were 258,000 more female part-time workers and 138,000 fewer male full-time workers.

The increase of 41,000 in the number employed in manufacturing industries in June 1974 compared with June 1973 is a little less than the increase of 51,000 recorded in the previous year. The increase was concentrated in a few industries including, in partiular, the engineering industries.

In the Index of Production Industries, comprising mining and quarrying, manufacturing, construction, gas, electricity and water, there was a fall of 19,000, the chief decreases being 48,000 in construction (compared with a rise of 80,000 in the previous year) and 14,000 in mining and quarrying (compared with a fall of 16,000 between 1972 and 1973).

In the services sector there was a rise of 57,000 in the numbers employed in the Industry Order comprising insurance, banking, finance and business services.

The increase of 16,000 in the distributive trades was considerably less than the 103,000 recorded in the previous year.

The numbers employed in professional and scientific services continued to rise steadily – the increases being over 100,000 in each of the past three years, mainly in education and health services.

Miscellaneous services, which rose by about 100,000 in each of the previous two years, fell by 26,000.

New companies incorporated in Northern Ireland during May 1975

During May 39 private companies with a total nominal capital of £505,600 were incorporated in Northern Ireland.

During the period January-May 197 companies with a total nominal capital of £5,152,896 were incorporated as compared with 279 companies with a total nominal capital of £4,061,150 incorporated in the same period in 1974.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 27 June 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
The Magic Dream	BR/E 38151/28/6/80	27	25 June	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	New Decade Films Ltd.
The Cars That Ate Paris	BR/E 38155/28/6/80	88	25 June	Crawford Films Ltd.	Salt-Pan Films Pty. Ltd., Sydney
Movietone News 2403	BR/E 37833/28/6/80	8	27 June	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Infernal Trio	EC 38152/28/6/80	103	25 June	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Belstar Productions, Lira Films, Films 66, Fox-Europa, Paris, Oceania Produzione Rome and Tit Film Production, Munich
			FOREIGN		
The Man Who Loved Cat Dancing	F 38153	110	25 June	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	MGM Incorporated, California
Mr. Ricco	F 38154	98	25 June	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	MGM Incorporated, California
The Wind and the Lion	F 38156	119	26 June	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Camphill Productions, New York

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	16 May 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	20 June 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	13 June 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	20 June 1975
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	13 June 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	9 May 1975
insolvencies (Q)	2 May 1975
liquidity (Q)	13 June 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	20 June 1975
N. Ireland (M)	This week
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
EEC economic indicators	27 June 1975
Energy trends (M)	This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	20 June 1975
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	20 June 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	6 June 1975
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1975
household consumption (Q)	This week
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	This week
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	16 May 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	20 June 1975
Hire-purchase business (M)	13 June 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	27 June 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	23 May 1975
Insolvencies in England and Wales (Q)	2 May 1975
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	13 June 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	30 May 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	6 June 1975
production (M)	6 June 1975
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	6 June 1975
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	27 June 1975
estimated figures (M)	13 June 1975
motor trade turnover (Q)	30 May 1975
Office development permits (Q)	9 May 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	20 June 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	27 June 1975
Retail prices index (M)	20 June 1975
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	13 June 1975
provisional figures (M)	20 June 1975
sales, N. Ireland (M)	20 June 1975
stocks (M)	27 June 1975
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	27 June 1975
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	13 June 1975
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	13 June 1975
retail (M)	27 June 1975
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1975
carpet sales (M)	27 June 1975
cotton industry production (M)	20 June 1975
hosiery production (M)	This week
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	This week
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	This week
wool exports (Q)	20 June 1975
wool output (M)	20 June 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	20 June 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	13 June 1975
index numbers (M)	20 June 1975

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	4 Apr. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	20 June 1975
ECGD local offices	14 Mar. 1975
Guide to Departments	7 Mar. 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	18 Apr. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	27 June 1975

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The work of BSI

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Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

8 and 9 July 1975

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts.

Auctioneers: Arnold and Son (Dept. L), 13 Market Place, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffs DE14 1HL (tel. 0283-64657)

A large quantity of Government surplus stores including MT, electrical and electronic spares and equipment, generators, firepump trailers, aircraft components and ground equipment, general household and office furniture, typewriters, various textiles, scrap metals, vehicle tyres, engineering tools and equipment, wooden boxes. A large quantity of hand tools including pul-lifts, bolt croppers, stillsons, chain saws, etc. Boxing ring. Various machine tools, Murex electric welders. Binoculars, watches, cameras, etc.

15 and 16 July 1975

Location: Central Ordnance Depot RAOC, Bicester, Oxon.

Auctioneers: Midland Marts Ltd. (Dept. L), Market Square, Bicester, Oxon, OX6 7AL (tel. 08692-2073)

A large quantity of clothing and textiles including 41,500 KD jackets, 92,500 KD trousers, 35,000 KD shorts, 72,000 KD tropical hats, 18,900 denim blouses, 23,500 denim trousers, greatcoats, dressing gowns, pullovers, drawers, boots, carpets, rags, haversacks, ground-sheets, canvas tentage including bivouacs. 1,000 Omega wristwatches. Chairs, tables, wardrobes, lockers, bedsteads, writing bureaux, dressing chests and sideboards. Austin 1800 saloon, Mini minor vans, Landrovers, forklift trucks, lathe, grinding machines, bending machine, tyres, charging sets, generator sets, ratchet jacks, pul-lifts, Roto lifts, bolt croppers, pipe wrenches, drilling pillars and braces, cameras, film projectors, hand tools, electrical equipment, kitchen equipment.

Catalogues for the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

British Labour Statistics: Historical Abstracts 1886–1968

This unique standard work of reference brings together all the main series of official statistics compiled by the Department of Employment and its predecessers since 1886, plus some for even earlier years. It contains 389 pages of tables and 50 pages of text and the subjects covered are wage rates, earnings, hours of work, retail prices, employment, unemployment, vacancies, family expenditure, industrial accidents, and disputes, membership of trade unions, labour costs and output per head. This will be a most valuable source-book for everyone concerned with the study and formulation of economic policies. £7 (by post £7.30)

Also available
British Labour Statistics: Year book 1972 £9 (by post £9.30)

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers

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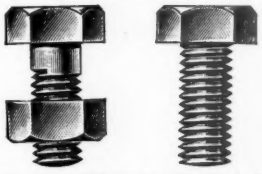

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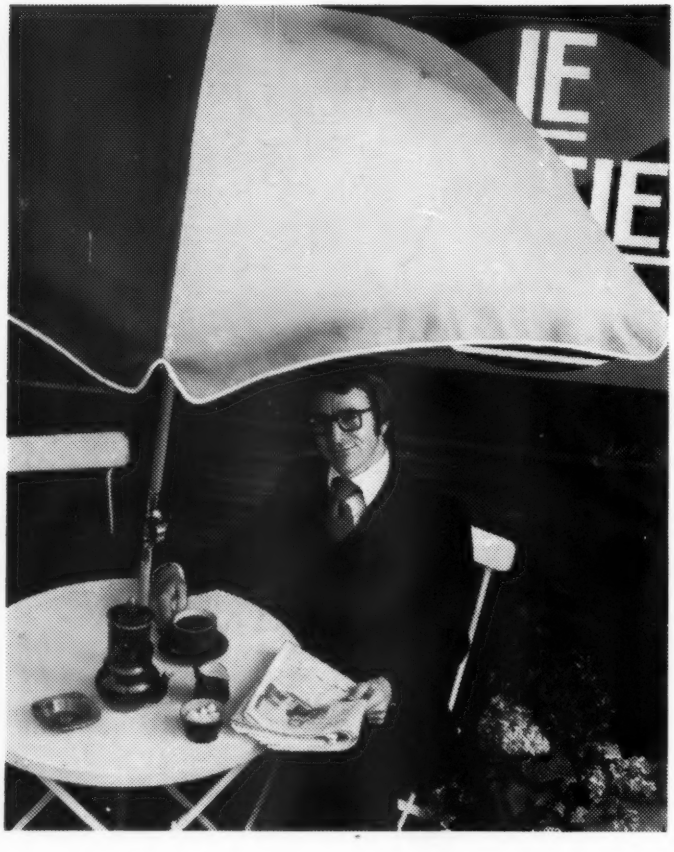

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